

Hafa Adai!

10 sought for BECO summer internship program opportunity. **PAGE 5**
Certified tour guides hoped to strengthen Japanese tourism. **PAGE 7**

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75¢

Juan N. Babauta to run again

» Sources say Dr. Rita A. Sablan is Babauta's running mate

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER



Babauta

Former governor Juan N. Babauta reportedly intends to run in the 2018 gubernatorial race and challenge Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for the top CNMI post at the Nov. 6 general election.

GOP slate now complete

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

The CNMI Republican Party's slate of candidates for this November elections is now complete, according to GOP president James Ada.

In an email to *Saipan Tribune*, Ada said the Republican Party of the CNMI is ready for the 2018 general elections in November. He added that the party has been strategizing for

the last eight months.

"There are a lot of new members and we have been receiving calls from our constituents to join our...party, led by our titular head in Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and the rest of the GOP candidates, precinct club chairman, members, supporters and families," said Ada in a statement.

Ada thanked Tinian Republican Party chair Frank Borja

See **GOP on Page 4**

Torres backs independent KCHC

By **BEA CABRERA**
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CORRESPONDENT

A week after acquiring a grant from Health Resources and Services Administration and expressing independence from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the Kagman Community Health Center board of direc-



Torres

tors met to discuss the center's future while undergoing transition.

Gov. Ralph Torres also met with the KCHC board of directors last Tuesday and emphasized with them that he will not allow health services to the clinic's 5,000-plus patients to be dis-

See **TORRES on Page 4**

Sources disclosed that Babauta will run as an independent candidate and has chosen former education commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan as

his running mate.

Sources said the Babauta-Sablan tandem has been confirmed and that the two will be making an official announce-

ment about their candidacy today, Thursday, 1:30pm at Babauta's home.

As of press time yesterday, Babauta and Sablan have yet

to reply to *Saipan Tribune's* calls and emails.

Torres is gunning for the same post, with Senate Presi-

See **Babauta on Page 4**



WALK AND ROLL

Over 200 women, men, and children participate in the Walk and Roll against Sexual Assault yesterday at the Chalan Kanoa basketball area.

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

PAL eyes expanding medical tourism to Saipan

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

The Philippine flag carrier, Philippine Airlines, is looking at expanding medical tourism

between Saipan and the Philippines as a means to boost its passenger traffic.

The Philippines is home to prestigious medical facilities and offers American-trained

medical expert but, unfortunately for Saipan residents, it takes a couple of expensive plane rides to get there.

Philippine Airlines is now looking at possibly getting

more people from the CNMI to the Philippines to avail of the country's medical services. That would entail raising people's awareness of the avail-

See **PAL on Page 4**

INSIDE



LOCAL

The contestants in the CNMI's Next Top Model make their public debut.

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ASIA

In a trade war between Xi and Trump, who has the better hand?

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ENVIRONMENT

Philippine President Duterte has approved the closure of Bora-cay island.

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Local

OPD takes stock as it works on dev't plan for NMI

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The newly formed Office of Planning and Development

has already started putting together a comprehensive sustainable development

plan for the CNMI.

According to its director, Kodep Ogumoro-Uludong,

they are at the phase where they are taking stock of what is needed to devise a comprehensive plan for the CNMI.

"Assess what we already have in terms of existing planning capacity and then work to move forward with what we have and build on that...the idea is to take stock," he said.

The Department of Planning and Development is a newly created office under the Office of the Governor that would basically serve as a middleman for all government agencies and their plans for development.

During the Rotary Club of Saipan's weekly meeting on Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni Restaurant, Ogumoro-Uludong shared with the club's members the office's purpose, which is to increase coordination between all government agencies and to compile all their plans and ensure that they coincide with one another.

"Since the launch of the office, there has really been a lot of going out, introduction, and getting to know the various agencies," he said.

Some of the major development comprehensive plans

that the office is looking into are plans for housing, plans for the revitalization of Garapan, developments for the Northern Islands, and more.

For the current housing shortage, for example, Ogumoro-Uludong said they are taking into account how much housing is currently available in order to devise the appropriate plan to improve the CNMI's shortage.

"Housing is certainly a priority area and a priority need for the Commonwealth at this time but the idea is to take stock of...what sort of housing resources we have in conjunction with the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.... and then determine from there what is best...whether to get rid of substandard housing or figure out some way of addressing it as well as looking at what other areas are potential sites for housing developments," he said.

The office is pushing for additional technical personnel to join their team of four.

"We are initially looking at hiring three planners with very specific backgrounds and that would also help to supplement what is already out there," he said.





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DOL job fair features at least 30 companies

The CNMI Department of Labor said that at least 30 businesses have confirmed their participation in a job fair.

Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente said the DOL job fair will take place on April 14, from 9am to 3pm, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

"It's a strong indication of the businesses' commitment to seek and employ qualified U.S. citizens as much as they possibly can," said Benavente, adding that DOL reached out to businesses such as construction companies, manpower agencies, hotels, restaurants, and childcare providers.

Noting that this was her first time to be at the helm of organizing the job fair, Benavente noted that main purpose of the job fair is to help CNMI residents and qualified citizens in their job hunting.

A highlight of the job fair is guest speaker Patrick G. Candoleta, who serves as the assistant district director for Guam and the CNMI at the U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division.

Benavente noted that Candoleta would be speaking in the morning. *(Erwin Encinares)*

Drop everything and read today!

Today marks the national Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) Day and the public is encouraged to participate in the first islandwide DEAR Day social media campaign.

All over the United States, schools and libraries will band together today to celebrate DEAR Day.

This year's celebration will be different for the CNMI because an islandwide social media campaign to encourage the act of dropping everything, picking up a book, and taking moment to read will be launched as the highlight.

According to Saipan Southern High School librarian Rosalyn Ajoste, the idea is to get everyone in the Commonwealth to drop whatever it is they may be doing, pick up any appropriate reading material, and snap a photo of themselves reading it on social media with the hashtag #WakeUpAndReadCNMI.

"We're going to wake up, take a picture of ourselves reading...and we're just going to bombard social media with it," she said.

Ajoste said pictures can be posted on any social media outlet, be it Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, blogs, etc.

The campaign will start as early as 12am this morning so the entire community has a chance, for one day only, to showcase the power of community and the power of reading. *(Kimberly A. Bautista)*



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Judge orders release to ICE passport of man in meth case

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has ordered the release to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the pass-

port of a man who was slapped with a two-year imprisonment for illegal possession of methamphetamine or "ice."

Camacho ordered the release of Rui Wei Huang's passport to ICE officials following the request of the Office of the Attorney General.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds, counsel for the government, said Huang pleaded guilty to illegal possession of controlled substance on Sept. 29, 2016.



Camacho

Huang, 42, also known as JCC Brother and No-No, was given credit of 441 days of time served.

In his sentencing order, Camacho instructed the Clerk of Court to provide ICE

a copy of the order.

Huang is a citizen of China. Huang was arrested on June 15, 2016 and charged with two counts of trafficking controlled substance and three counts of possession of controlled substance.

OAG then amended the

information charging Huang with only one count of possession of controlled substance.

A CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force officer said their "cooperating source" managed to buy \$340 and \$120 worth of "ice" from Huang during separate operations in Garapan.

TORRES

From Page 1

rupted.

Torres stressed the importance of maintaining health services without disruption and initiated several actions to ensure the transition of KCHC from a public co-applicant status to a non-profit entity.

Almost 4,000 patients from all corners of the island depend on KCHC's healthcare services.

Contrary to the impression of most, KCHC does not only cater to Kagman residents. The top 10 villages where its patients live are Kagman 3 with 1,490 patients, Kagman 2 with 562 patients, Dandan with 363 patients, Kagman 1 with 283 patients, Koblerville with 262 patients, Capital Hill with 240 patients, San Vicente with 221 patients, Garapan with 154 patients, Chalan Kanoa with 153 patients, Papago with 147 patients, and San Antonio with 113 patients.

The KCHC board, headed by chair Velma Palacios, said in a statement that it believes in protecting the rights of all the people in the CNMI to have access to high quality healthcare.



Gov. Ralph DLG Torres meets with the Kagman Community Health Center board of directors. Standing: Matt Gregory, Terry Aldan, Dr. Katherine Elstub, Tom Thornburgh, George Cruz, Vince Castro. Seated are Mako Torres, Torres, and KCHC board chair Velma Palacios.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"As a non-profit entity, the health center provides charitable services to the community, including the uninsured and those in need," she said. "Services include family care, women's and children's care, veterans care, and care for the chronically ill and elderly."

Palacios said that KCHC is fully funded by the federal government and program in-

come that it generates independently.

"The HRSA Health Center Programs award was made to the KCHC following an open service area competition. Any party was free to apply for the funding with an appropriate application," she added.

The new HRSA grant awarded to KCHC, leaving out co-applicant CHCC,

spurred disruption last week, especially at a time when the old HRSA grant is expiring on April 30, 2018, where KCHC and CHCC are co-applicants.

Torres pledged to the KCHC board that he will convey to the CHCC board his support of the KCHC and to ensure that the transition moves along as smoothly as possible.

BABAUTA

From Page 1

dent Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) as his running mate.

Babauta served as the sixth elected governor of the CNMI for one term, from 2002 to 2006. He sought re-election under the Republican Party in 2005, but was defeated by Benigno R. Fitial of the Cov-

enant Party.

In the 2009 election, Babauta sought the Republican nomination for the governor's position, but Heinz Hofschneider defeated him in the primary election. He then endorsed Hofschneider's candidacy.

In 2010, Babauta, as a Republican, sought the position of the CNMI's delegate to the U.S. House of Rep-

resentatives, but incumbent Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) won re-election to a second term. Babauta placed third.

In 2014, Babauta, with former senator Juan Torres as his running mate, ran for governor as an independent. The late governor Eloy S. Inos won with Torres as running mate.

Babauta served as resident representative of the NMI in

Washington, D.C. for three four-year terms, from 1990 to 2002.

Dr. Rita Sablan retired in 2016 as Education commissioner after serving the Board of Education for eight years. She was the recipient of the Peter Brice Award in July 2016. The award is given to the top educator in the Pacific region in honor of New Zealand's late minister of Education.

PAL

From Page 1

able expertise and facilities of the country.

Most medical referrals from the CNMI go to Guam, Hawaii, or the U.S. mainland.

According to a statement from Philippine Airlines assistant vice president Bryan Ang, one of the challenges of expanding medical tourism in the CNMI is numbers.

"The number from Saipan unfortunately remains small; however, given some similarities in the medical industry of Saipan and Guam and its close

proximity to the Philippines, we expect that Saipan can give us better numbers once the islands' awareness of what the Philippines can offer is improved," he said.

Ang said that PAL is determined to push forward with the medical tourism expansion because PAL sees a potential for growth in the CNMI, "which we believe has a big opportunity for growth... Meanwhile, we continue to serve our Saipan market by offering attractive fares through United Airlines from Saipan to Guam and on Philippine Airlines from Guam to Manila, or to any Philippine domestic

and/or international destinations," he said.

The idea is for CNMI residents to jump from Saipan to Guam via United Airlines, and then from Guam to Manila aboard PAL.

Medical tourism does not only cater to patients in urgent need of medical evacuation, but also caters to travelers who seek health and wellness in order to maintain and monitor their health.

Philippine Airlines indefinitely suspended regular Saipan flights back in August of 2017 due to a decrease in the number of passengers. Fortunately, after more than

a year of seasonal operations, PAL remains hopeful that they can operate the route again in the near future.

PAL is also monitoring the U.S. government's decision on the CNMI-Only Transitional Workers visa, which will help put more passengers on PAL flights.

Back in March, PAL partnered with Resorts World Manila to bring visitors from Saipan, Guam, and Hawaii to Manila to participate in RWM's 2018 familiarization tour.

The PAL flight from Guam to the Philippines lasts about three hours.

GOP

From Page 1

and Rota Republican Party chair Laura Manglona, as well as Greg "Kachuma" Camacho, chairman of the committee-to-elect the Torres-Palacios gubernatorial tandem.

In the current 20th CNMI Legislature, the GOP dominates both chambers, with only seven members comprising the minority: minority leader Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), Reps. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan), Vinson Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), and two minority members who now side with the GOP: Rep. Blas 'BJ' Attao (Ind-Saipan) and Sen. Justo Quitugua (Ind-Saipan).

GOP SLATE

Governor and lieutenant governor

Ralph Dlg. Torres, Governor
Arnold I. Palacios, Lieutenant Governor

Candidate for U.S. delegate

Angel Demapan

Candidate for Saipan mayor

David M. Apatang

Candidate for Northern Islands mayor

Diego Kaipat

Candidate for Rota mayor

Efraim Atalig

Candidate for Tinian mayor

Edwin Aldan

Candidates for Senate (Saipan)

Justo Quitugua
Joseph Deleon Guerrero

Candidates for Senate (Tinian)

Jude Hofschneider
Frank Cruz

Candidates for Senate (Rota)

Victor Hocog
Felix Santos

Candidates for Precinct I

Janet Maratita
Joseph Leepan Guerrero
Greg Sablan, Jr.
Luis John Castro
Roman Benavente
Ray T. Palacios

Candidates for Precinct II

Ralph Demapan
John Paul Sablan

Candidates for Precinct III

Frank Dela Cruz
Ivan Blanco
Joe Itibus
Donald Barcinas
BJ Attao
Ralph Yumul

Candidates for Precinct IV

Alice S. Igitol
Joel Camacho

Candidates for Precinct V

Frank C. Aguon
Larry Deleon Guerrero

Candidate for Tinian House

Antonio Borja

Candidate for Rota House

Glenn Maratita

MOVING FORWARD

House Speaker Rafael Demapan and Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan) lead Precinct 2 representatives in a meeting on March 21 with key agencies, including the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, Historic Preservation Office, Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Department of Public Works, and Department of Public Lands to restore the Sugar Dock and address its deteriorating and unsafe condition.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



10 sought for BECQ summer internship program opportunity

The Division of Coastal Resources Management under the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality announces the annual Coral Reef Initiative Summer Internship Program.

DCRM director Janice E. Castro noted that the program has worked since 2002 to raise student awareness of coral reef issues, threats, and the efforts to protect them.

Participants are given the chance to gain hands-on experience in resource management and are encouraged to pursue an education and career in an aspect of coral reef resource management.

Every year, 10 postsecondary students are awarded paid, project-based internships with natural resource agencies. Each intern is paired with an experienced mentor and is assigned to carry out a specific management project.

Castro said the internship program has shown great success, with many of its past interns returning for a second internship or as full-time employees.

BECQ administrator Eliceo Cabrera said the internship opportunity hones in on the International Year of the Reef observation.

"Coral reefs are a critical resource in our region and must be protected. Increasing awareness and cultivating interest in resource management and environment is a crucial step toward our sustainability efforts. I highly encourage our youth and community leaders to take advantage of this opportunity to work side by side talented and very knowledgeable resources managers and biologists," Cabrera said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said that the Coral Reef Initiative has inspired and trained many local environmentalists and advocates.

"The CRI internship has been a longstanding initiative that has steadily built a workforce that is enthusiastic and aware of precious resources. Our DCRM director is one of the products of this internship and continues to serve

our community. I want to emphasize and recognize the economic, ecological, and cultural importance of coral reefs and I am very thankful for the CNMI Coral Reef Initiative, which works to protect and preserve these precious resources through biological monitoring, habitat restoration, research, enforcement, and education and outreach. I urge our students who are interested in preserving our resources and learning about our reefs to apply. I look forward to seeing our students put passion to action and explore practical and innovative solutions for conservation and sustainable use for future generations," Torres said.

This summer, DCRM is looking for 10 CNMI-based college students, college students returning home for the summer, or college-bound high school graduates, with an interest in learning more about coral reef resource management.

The internship runs from June 2018 to August 2018, where summer interns work 20 hours a week and are paid \$8 per hour. Interns will be given the opportunity to learn about coastal planning, coral reef and sea grass monitoring, shoreline monitoring, marine monitoring, enforcement, and community education and outreach.

To be considered, the following documents must be submitted by May 1, 2018 to the BECQ main office on Middle Road or via email at outreach@dcrm.gov.mp: CNMI Employment Application from the Office of Personnel Management in Gualo Rai or downloaded online at <http://cnmiopm.net/resources/files/Employee%20Application.pdf>, cover letter, resume, transcript, two letters of recommendation, police clearance (within the last three months), and a copy of valid photo ID (driver's license or passport).

For more information, contact Jihan Younis at jyounis@dcrm.gov.mp or call 664-8500/01. (PR)

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2 Saipan women nominated for Maga'håga award

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Pacific Islands Club Saipan general manager Gloria Cavanagh and Friends First Marketing Inc. president Donna Krum have been nominated for the 2018 Businesswoman of the Year Maga'håga award. They join five other nominees for the award, all of them from Guam.

The 2018 Businesswoman of the Year award is held annually by First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business Magazine*.

The eventual winner will be announced at the awards night and gala on April 28 at the Hy-

att Regency in Guam. On Saipan, Cavanagh wears many hats. She is president of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, chairs the Marianas Visitors Authority board, and is general manager of PIC.

"Being a nominee itself is an honor because, first, I didn't know whether I had time to do this but, having two daughters of my own, I thought if I don't do this, what kind of example am I going to show my daughters?" she said.

Cavanagh look up to the



Cavanagh

women on Saipan who have been recipients of this award and feels the responsibility of paving the way for the women that will come after her.

"When they asked me whether or not I would accept the nomination, I said 'of course!' I mean...it is for those who will come after me and for those who gone before me like Marian Aldan-Pierce, Wendy Harring, to name a few," she said.



Krum

"They are fantastic women in their field—in business, tourism, and in everything that they do. To be kind of like to be set up in the same category as those women is wonderful and I think I am very lucky to have that path paved where it makes it a little bit easier for me to accomplish things," she added.

Cavanagh said it would be nice to bring the award home to Saipan and share it with the rest of the community, especially the women. "Donna Krum is the second nominee

from Saipan and we are having a lot of fun," she added.

Aside from handling her own business, Krum is the co-owner of Paradise Dental, an officer of the Soroptimist NMI Chapter, an active member of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, and a co-leader of the Compassionate Friends of Saipan.

Krum said she was completely surprised and honored to be nominated.

"This means a lot to me because it is a very special year of my life. I am going to be 65 years old next week and to be nominated feels like you can still be a vibrant part of your business community as a woman at any age," she said.

"Women have value or worth no matter how old... I consider this nomination as a birthday present" she added.

According to Krum, part of her success is how much she values people and relationships.

"I've always wanted to go out there and be involved in everything in the community because of the relationships that develop out of that... show up, play nice, and just go everywhere that you can go

to build friendships because it's all those relationships that will help you solve all issues and this is one of the reasons why I was talking to the Guam people and I am thankful that I've been so fortunate in my business life," she said.

"I was just really willing to show up, learn new things and people always wanted to take me with them. I wasn't a person that knew what I wanted to be when I grew up—I just grew wherever I was planted, did the best I could no matter where I was and the rest just kind of took care of itself," she added.

The 2017 award went to Ramona L. Jones who is the CEO of Jones & Guerrero Co. Inc. in Guam.

The other nominees are Fleet Card and Commercial Fuels, South Pacific Petroleum Corp. area manager Anna Gera-Van Seters, Guam Reef & Olive Spa Resort F&B director Chito de Guzman-Aguilo, SET Pacific Inc. president and CEO Grace Jacot, Xokihahi Cares Inc. founder and CEO Traci "TC" Jordan, and The Occasion owner, event planner, and stylist Kathleen M. Thomas-Benavente.

Income tax deadline is Monday

The filing deadline for income tax, corporate tax, Form 500's, and request for extensions is this Monday, April 16, 2018.

Tax payers are advised to request for submission extensions as soon as possible.

The Division of Revenue and Taxation will be open at 7:30am and will be extending its hours to 8pm on April 16 to accommodate the public.

As a reminder, Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson said if there are any issues from prior year tax filings, filers are asked to clear them as soon as possible to expedite the processing of rebates.

Tax forms are available online at the Department of Finance website at www.cnmidof.net or at their office at the Joeten Dan Dan Commercial Center.

Different tax forms can be downloaded in PDF form by accessing the "download forms" tab on the main menu, with further instructions available and additional forms provided on www.cnmidof.net/rev/forms.asp.

Larson noted that the general rule for which type of income tax return to use are as follows:

- U.S. (US), CNMI (MP), and Guam (GU) citizens, bona fide residents to the CNMI and resident aliens meeting the green card or substantial presence test use the following forms as appropriate: Form 1040EZ-CM, Form 1040A-CM, Form 1040CM.
- Nonresident aliens use Form 1040NR-CM. You are a nonresident alien if you are not a U.S. green card holder (granted immigration status as lawful permanent resident of the United States) or you do not meet the substantial presence test. Refer to the 1040NR for more guidance or consult a tax professional.

If you have any questions or need additional information, call 664-1000/18/98/65/67. (PR)

4 bills become law

On April 7, 2018, four bills were enacted into law:

- Senate Bill 20-86, SD1 renames the Tinian port and harbor as the "Honorable Jose Pangelinan San Nicolas Commercial Port of Tinian." Offered by Sens. Jude U. Hofschneider, Francisco Q. Cruz, and Francisco M. Borja, the bill is now Public Law 20-50.
- House Bill 20-83, SS1 enables the Marianas Visitors Authority to strengthen qualifications for tour guides and operators and enacts enforcement authority on noncompliant tour guides, tour operators, or tourist land/sea transport operators. Authored by Rep. Angel A. Demapan, this bill is now Public Law 20-51.
- House Bill 20-53 establishes and defines the authority of the Department of Public Works to promulgate rules and regulations within the Rights of Way. Authored by Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao, this bill is now Public Law 20-52.
- House Bill 20-128 establishes separate marriage license fees for residents and nonresidents. Authored by Rep. Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero, this bill is now Public Law 20-53. (PR)

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Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion, Marianas Visitors Authority Tour Guide Certification manager Kuen-Hee Han and Pacific Micronesia Tours Inc. president Masato Tezuka surround the graduates of the recent Marianas Guide Program, a 20-hour course held at the Northern Marianas College especially made for tourist guides in the CNMI.

Certified tour guides hoped to strengthen Japanese tourism

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

One of the leading tour operators on island, Pacific Micronesia Tours Inc., had several of its tour guides complete the Marianas Guide Program and were certified last Tuesday at the Marianas Visitors Authority office in San Jose.

It is hoped that, since Pacific Micronesia Tours has about 95 percent Japanese client tourists, having many of their guides certified would boost Japanese tourism in the CNMI.

According to MVA managing director Chris Concepcion, Pacific Micronesia Tours is the first Japanese tourist company to have all of its tour guides undergo the Marianas Guide Program.

"The courses that they took are very educational, where they are immersed in the history and culture of the CNMI and the do's and don'ts while taking tourists around," he said. "Getting certified makes them better guides, which makes the experience more memorable to the tourists when they come."

Concepcion said that this program would hopefully en-

courage more Japanese tourists to choose the CNMI as their destination.

The Marianas Guide Program is a collaboration between MVA and Northern Marianas College.

In an earlier interview, NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez said the program lays a solid foundation to help ensure that tour guides are equipped with consistent information.

"The information that is taught is not only about the CNMI's history, culture, and environment but also about local rules and regulations that are relevant to tour activities," she added.

Tour guide Masaru Sunaga said he learned a lot more about the CNMI from the program.

"CNMI's history is very rich and learning about it gave me knowledge that I could share to the tourists that will visit us. The other big part of the program is learning about taking care of nature and this was truly emphasized in the classes," he added.

Another tour guide, Mari Sugiyama Bernardo, said she learned about the past and present relationship between

Japan and the CNMI.

"If I were asked by tourists what place I will recommend for them, I would say Marpi and Sugar King Park in Chinatown because there is a lot of Japanese history there," she added.

Taro Kubo said he has lived in the CNMI for 10 years but going through the program made his perspective about the CNMI change.

"I learned about the CNMI culture that is unique like the legend of Taga. I only knew about the history of the CNMI and Japan but now, even the CNMI's history with Germany and Spain is clear to me," he added.

Pacific Micronesia Tours manager Masato Tezuka is pleased that the program is very organized. "The program has a very good system and we are very happy that MVA has this. This program is very helpful to our tour guides and Japanese tourists and we intend to continue this as long as possible," he said.

Other tour guides that were certified were Keiko Ojima, Kaori Takahashi, Kaori Osanai, Leopold Rodriguez Jr., Sachiyo Hoshiba George, and Palokoa Sitchiro Mongkeya.

21 vendors set for Taste of the Marianas in May

Twenty-one vendors have signed up to bring flavors of the island to life at the 20th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden, scheduled for every Saturday evening during May Tourism 2018.

The Marianas Visitors Authority's signature event will return to American Memorial Park this year.

Participating food vendors will be Hyatt Regency Saipan, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Coral

Ocean Golf Resort, Kensington Hotel, Bubba Gump Shrimp Co., Tony Roma's/Capricciosa, Furusato Restaurant, Kinpachi Restaurant, Matty's BBQ, D'Elegance Restaurant, The Hut, Herman's Modern Bakery, Thai House, Terry's Snack Bar, Sierra Pearl Shake, and Tropical Chills. Participating drink vendors will be MarPac, Pacific Trading Co, and Saipan Brewing Co.

"All our food and drink vendors are preparing diligently to present another delicious Taste

of the Marianas for residents and visitors to enjoy," said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Dueñas. "Everyone knows that Taste is the place to eat on Saturday nights in May. Of course, we will again have non-stop live entertainment on the main stage, nightly contests on the secondary stage, and more. Hope we see everyone there!"

The festival will be held from 6pm to 10pm each Saturday in May (closing at 11pm on the final night). (MVA)



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Modeling bets make public debut

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The contestants in the CNMI's Next Top Model made their public debut during last week's Thursday Night Market at the Garapan Fishing Base to invite the public to the 2018 CNMI's Next Top Model pageant.

The 16 contestants did a pre-pageant walk at the weekly Night Market and a brief preview of the kinds of talents they will be seeing during the talent portion of the pageant.

According to CNMI's Next Top Model coordinator Sharmaine Casquero, the Thursday performance was intended to give the contestants a chance to individually introduce themselves and to prepare



The contestants of the upcoming CNMI's Next Top Model pageant pose for a photo during their public debut at the Night Market last Thursday.

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

them for the pressure of presenting themselves and their costumes in front of a crowd.

One of the contestants,

Morzina Khan, 18, said she is both nervous and excited for pageant night.

One of the aims of the pageant is to promote recycling

and environmental consciousness, which the contestants would create by making their own recycled fashionwear, called Trash-to-Class.

Khan said she and her co-contestants have already started piecing together their Trash-to-Class wear. The materials used for the Trash-to-Class costumes are 100 percent recyclables and are put together manually by each contestant to not only educate them on the importance of recycling, but also to showcase their creativity.

"Taking care of our Mother Earth is very important...if we

want a beautiful environment, we need to start taking care of our environment," she said.

Khan said other preparations for the pageant include practicing to walk in their costumes, walking with confidence, and to overcome their fear of publicly presenting themselves.

Aside from Khan, the other contestants are Lucewara Naveen, 14; Revira Trisha Jindra, 13; Cadawan Ma Valerie, 18; Sue Ann Huevos, 15; Mazie Anne Manalang, 16; Jannine Magbanua Deleon Guerrero, 13; Labao Jeggier, 17; Neil Camay, 16; Yads DeGuzman, 17; Joshua Magno, 18; Salvani Darl Gio, 17; Tristan

Joshua Amado, 18; Macrino Carreon, 16; Francis Matthew Macaspac, 18; and Ezekiel Quiroz, 18.

The CNMI's Next Top Model pageant will be held on April 22, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, starting at 6:30pm and all guests are encouraged to dress in formal attire.

Tickets have been available since March 10 and range from \$10 to \$20, depending on the seating

For those interested in buying a ticket to the pageant, contact Casquero at 233-2643 or Alice Barbo through the Saipan Unity Lion's Club Facebook page.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW-18-IFB-014

SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF STOREFRONT DOOR/WINDOWS FOR THE OFFICE OF AGING, ROTA

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Supply Delivery and Installation of Storefront Door/Windows for Office of Aging, Rota** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **April 5, 2018** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **Fifty Dollars (\$50.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **April 24, 2018, 9:00 a.m. local time** at the **Office of Aging, ROTA**. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **May 2, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-18-IFB-014"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **9:00 a.m. local time May 7, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **9:00 a.m. local time, May 7, 2018**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 7, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **May 16, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, May 18, 2018**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on May 7, 2018**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Sixty (60) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

TO: RACHEL T. F. DELEON GUERRERO and APRIL LYNN P. RIOS

You are in default in your Promissory Note dated September 26, 2013 (addendum dated March 25, 2014), secured by a Mortgage of the same date, executed and delivered by you to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

- | | |
|-----|--|
| (a) | Description of the real property covered by Mortgage:
Lot no. 011 G 1302, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, containing an area of 931 square meters, more or less, as shown on DLS Check no. 011 G 24, dated December 9, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 96-2567, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference. |
| (b) | Date and amount of Promissory Note and Mortgage: September 26, 2013; \$64,152.00 |
| (c) | Amount due for principal: \$11,307.67 as of June 1, 2017 |
| (d) | Amount due for interest: \$2,811.91 as of June 1, 2017 |
| (e) | Daily accruing interest: \$2.40 |

If the principal, interest, and late charges \$14,119.58, plus accruing interest, together with reasonable attorney's fees in the amount of \$500.00, are not paid within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this notice upon you, you will be in default, and Court proceedings will be commenced against you to foreclose upon the said Mortgage because of the default.

Unless you, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this letter dispute the validity of the claim, or any portion thereof, we will assume that it is valid. If you notify us in writing within this thirty (30) day period that the claim, or any portion thereof, is disputed, we will obtain information on the debt and mail you a copy thereof. Upon your written request within this thirty (30)-day period, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the creditor indicated above.

This letter is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Ti un komple i kontratan debimu (Promissory Note) ni un fitma gi Septembre 26, 2013 (addendum gi Matso 25, 2014), ni afabobot i Mortgage ma aseguro i tano yan guma ni un empeña gi mismo dia, un fitma yan un entrega i empeña (Mortgage) guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

- | | |
|-----|---|
| (a) | I deskripsion tano ni ma empenen (mortgaged):
Sito numiro 011 G 1302, ni gaigi gi Kagman III, Saipan Note Marianas, ni ha konsiste un aria 931 kuadro metro, mas pat menus, ni anak gi DLS Check numino 011 G 24, gi Disiembre 9, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File numiro 96-2567, guih i deskripsion ni ma incorporate guini ginen i infotmasyon. |
| (b) | I kantida yan i fechan este na debi yan empepeña: Septembre 26, 2013; \$64,152.00 |
| (c) | Kantida un debi para principat: \$11,307.67 asta ki Juño 1, 2017 |
| (d) | Kantida un debi para interes: \$2,811.91 asta ki Juño 1, 2017 |
| (e) | Interes kada dia: \$2.40 |

Yanin ti un apasi i kantida na principat, interes, yan apas pot atrasao (late charges) \$14,119.58 yan i resanable na apas abugado pot \$500.00 gi halom trenta (30) dias despues di i fecha ni un resibe este na notisia, un ma konsidera komo ti unkomple i kontratamu (default), yan siempre u-matutuhun kontra hago a kausan kotti ni para uma kondena ya uma bendi i propriadat tano'mu ni un empepeña guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

Solo yanin halom trenta (30) dias dispues de un resibe este na kata yun kontra minagaget-ña pot i apudera sino komo i pattida, siempre bai in hongge an asientadu a apudera. Pago yanin un kattayi ham gi halom este i trenta (30) dias siklo man infototma hao pot i apudera sino komo i pattida para un kontra, pues bai in henta infotmasyon pot i dibi-mu dispues un ma kattayi i kopia pot este na de'unta. Anai in resibe i kata-mu gi halom trenta (30) dias siklo, bai in nai'i hao i na'an yan address i akredot komo ti parehu na akredot ma indika guini hulu.

Este na kata para u ma na'kesiña ma rikohi i dibi-mu. Maseha hafa na infotmasyon ni in resibe pot este na apudera — siña bai in usa para bai in ke-chagi rehoki para este i dibi-mu.

/s/
MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ.
Attorney at Law



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Hafa Adair!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Better civics education in schools? Yes, please

Educating students about civics and how government works is too important to be left to chance. Yet to some extent, that's what's been happening throughout Washington state these past few years, with civics education varying widely from district to district.

Soon, however, Washington schools will be held to a higher standard. A new law will mandate that students take a semesterlong, stand-alone civics course starting in the 2020-21 school year.

This is positive news for our democracy. Students who enter adulthood understanding government and their role as citizens are better equipped to participate in elections and hold officials accountable. Some data suggest that stronger civics education also corresponds with higher turnout among young voters.

While Washington students have previously been required to take a half-credit of civics, they have been able to fulfill the requirement with a wide range of social-studies coursework.

That has been a recipe for inconsistency. Right now, students' civics education may involve discussing contemporary world events and perhaps some federal government issues, but often glosses over how government works at the state or local level, said state superintendent Chris Reykdal.

In many cases, embedding civics within another course also means students don't get a full semester of instruction in the topic, Reykdal added.

Not good enough, lawmakers said this year.

The new law, House Bill 1896, will require most students to take a separate high school civics class. Only those students who cover the topic in-depth as part of a more rigorous dual-credit class, such as an Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course, will avoid having to take civics separately.

The new law also requires that students study and complete the civics portion of the naturalization test that immigrants must take to become U.S. citizens.

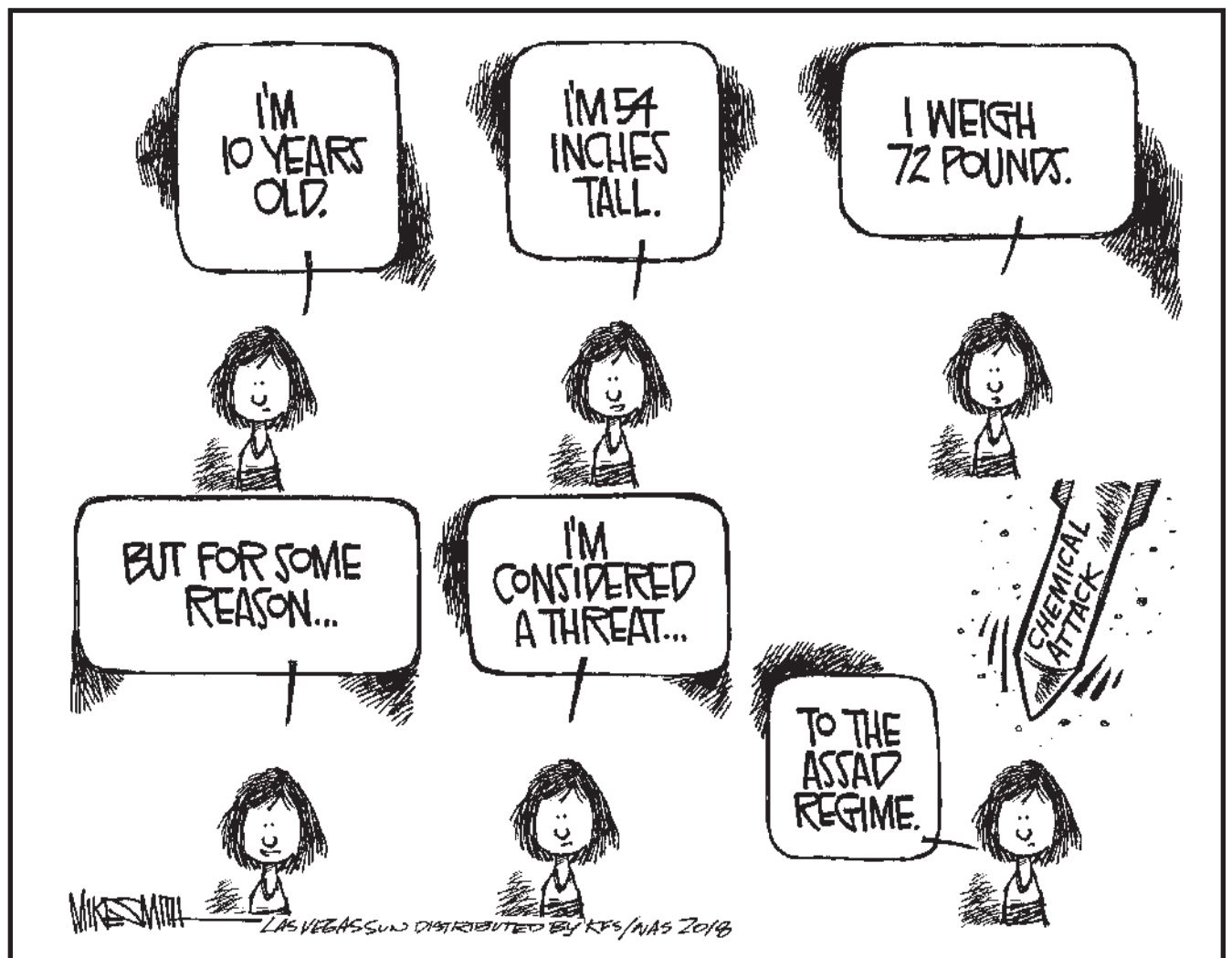
At the very least, a renewed focus on civics education will make it less likely that Washington citizens will be easily duped by online memes misconstruing how government functions. That is part of what state Rep. Laurie Dolan, the Olympia Democrat who sponsored the bill, hopes for.

Yet it isn't just Democrats who advocated strengthening civics education. The bill passed nearly unanimously.

At the most basic level, students should grasp the wide variety of ways they can make a difference in their communities, whether it be writing their member of Congress, attending a city council meeting, or simply casting their ballots once they turn 18.

Cultivating an informed citizenry is not a goal that should be partisan. It is refreshing to see Washington lawmakers stand together and recognize that this year.

(c)2018 The Seattle Times



When aiming at Russia, don't hit allies

By THOMAS R. PICKERING and ATMAN M. TRIVEDI
BLOOMBERG VIEW

For months now, U.S. congressional leaders have been pressing President Donald Trump to impose biting sanctions on Russia for its meddling in Ukraine, Syria, the 2016 U.S. elections and, most recently, the U.K. In frustration, legislators have sought to act unilaterally where they can. Their efforts now threaten critical U.S. allies and partners—India chief among them.

Like its predecessor, the Trump administration has wisely sought to make India a central pillar in its overall Asia strategy. The rising power, in a rare feat, enjoys bipartisan support in Washington; an overwhelming majority of U.S. foreign policy players would like to see an acceleration of U.S.-India ties, given the two countries' convergence of interests and values. Neither country wants any one nation to dominate Asia's future and democratic India constitutes a bulwark against the region's rising tide of authoritarianism.

That comfortable consensus, however, could now run afoul of politicking in Washington. Visiting Moscow last week, India's defense minister agreed to expedite the purchase of the sophisticated, long-range S-400 air defense system from Russia. The deal had originally been signed in October 2016 but has been held up mainly by quibbles over price.

The Indian arms purchase could violate a law Trump reluctantly signed in August 2017 that targets Russia for its interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential elections and other destabilizing behavior. The Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act requires punishing any country engaging in "significant transactions" with Russia's defense and intelligence sectors.

The India-Russia deal is a byproduct of a defense relationship that dates back to the beginning of the Cold War. Despite leading a movement of countries "non-aligned" with either Washington or Moscow, India tilted toward the Soviets, while its archrival Pakistan sought an alliance with the U.S. About 60 percent of India's defense equipment still comes from Russia.

As the estrangement of that era has steadily melted away and India's economy has surged, the U.S. has risen to become India's second-largest defense supplier. In fact, U.S.-India defense ties enjoy the strongest momentum in the overall relationship today. India is a critical partner in helping manage China's rise, fighting terrorism in South Asia and providing maritime security in the Indian Ocean.

Yet, there's some catching up to do. India lives in a danger-

ous neighborhood with nuclear-armed China and Pakistan, rivals with whom it has fought wars and has active border disputes. State-of-the-art military equipment is a must-have for the world's largest arms importer, especially when its most formidable strategic competitor, China, was Russia's first overseas customer for the S-400 system.

India wants to be the second, largely to strengthen its borders against attack. The essentially defensive S-400 is meant to provide India reassurance even as its armed forces face acute combat aircraft shortages and procurement delays.

Any public threat — let alone imposition — of sanctions will severely damage the growing U.S.-India strategic partnership. The merest suggestion of Western interference in sovereign decisions has long been considered an affront in India — a neuralgia that can be traced not only to the country's searing colonial experience, but to past U.S. penalties imposed for nuclear tests conducted in 1974 and 1998.

Those restrictions, and extant export controls on defense equipment, raise questions in India about America's reliability as a security provider. The array of active threats India faces can make any withholding of aid and equipment seem like a life-and-death decision.

While understandably frustrated by Trump's lack of enthusiasm for implementing Russia sanctions, Congress was ill-advised to pass an extraterritorial measure putting countries such as India in the cross-hairs without explicitly providing for carve-outs. It would undermine significant American interests if secondary U.S. sanctions, of all things, pushed India deeper into Russia's arms.

Before it's too late, the U.S. and India should quietly work together to find other arrangements to address the latter's defense requirements. If that's not feasible — India has reportedly turned down the older Patriot missile defense system, for example — Congress should provide India a sanctions waiver. Allowing for exceptions based on an overall assessment of national security is hardly unusual under U.S. sanctions and trade law.

Better yet, U.S. legislators should consider offering a blanket waiver to all allies or partners that could foreseeably be caught up in the Russia sanctions — from India to Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Vietnam. Too much is at stake to allow one-off defense transactions and well-intended U.S. legislation to damage budding relationships with promising security partners.

This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board or Bloomberg LP and its owners.

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Syria is normalizing the use of chemical weapons

By **ZAHER SAHLOUL**
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The scenes have become strangely familiar by now. The latest videos and pictures, streaming since Saturday from war-torn Syria, show the dead bodies of angel-like children and women, crowded in basements and littering the stairs of shelters. White foam covers their mouths and noses. They look asleep, but they are dead. There are no external wounds to explain why they are dead, a hallmark of exposure to chemical agents.

Another suspected chemical attack has occurred in Syria.

An April calendar in haiku/senryu

LITERARY NOOK

By **JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

April is National Poetry Month. Here is an abecedarian haiku/senryu calendar for April:

1st April adolescence / fools rush in / teenage years
2nd April birthday / to be or not to be/Shakespeare baptized (23rd)
3rd April come she will / for Easter / a new yellow raincoat
4th April dews and don'ts / thunder lightening and rain / threatening
5th April eggs / hardboiled in a basket / chocolate foiled
6th April fools / forget what they're like / in May and June
7th April gala / 'Singing In the Rain' / goofing on 'a stairs'
8th April hi jinx / fooling around / in a mud puddle
9th April injustice / pouring rain / on her sixth birthday
10th April joker / cracks / a grin
11th April kick off / soccer balls / hit foolish heads
12th "April Love" / Pat Boone/ croons
13th April moon / fools in love / underneath
14th April noon/ high calorie buffet/ back for a fourth plate
15th April on again / off again rain showers / can't decide
16th April planting / peanuts and potatoes/ both buttered and mashed
17th April quilt / frost mud slush and gush/city square's a mess
18th April rush/ daffodils / visible
19th April stars forecast/ Oscars out tonight / dim tomorrow
20th April torrent / all at once / gone in a flash
21st April umbrellas / tool of the month/ sold out
22nd April violets/ my mother's favorites/ by mossy stones
23rd April weather / May around the corner/ thank goodness
24th April X rated / railroad crossing signal light/ on for days
25th April yellow lights / sign of things to come / use caution
26th April zinnias / unheard of / way too early
27th April en Paris/ le petite fleur monsieur /avec plaisir
28th April in Perth /fall for all its worth/ down under
29th April prognostication/Portland,ME to Portland,OR/ rain
30th April in Brooklyn / schlepping in the rain / making groceries

Bushra is a medical student who has been working nonstop at the site of this latest attack, in Douma, just outside of Syria's capital, Damascus. She works in a hospital supported by my organization, and I got to know Bushra (for her safety, we are only using her first name) through the recent crisis and have communicated with her through WhatsApp. Most doctors were forced to leave the enclave. She is working as a nurse, doctor and even surgeon because of the severe shortage of health care professionals there.

The main hospital in Douma was bombed by an airstrike the same day as the gas attack. Her small hospital was flooded with injured patients. "They were choking" she said. "They smelled bleach." All had respiratory symptoms — coughing, wheezing, foaming, vomiting and tearing in their eyes. Some of them were having convulsions. She also felt tightness in her own chest. She did not have proper protective gear. It is difficult to ascertain which chemical agent was used. The bleach-like smell indicated possible exposure to a choking agent, chlorine, which was used by the Germans during World War I. But the severity and scale may indicate a new agent or mixed chemical agents. There have been recent reports that the Syrian government has been developing new chemical agents.

Bushra told me about the chaotic scenes of nurses using water hoses to wash petrified children who were screaming or traumatized by what they witnessed. Her underground hospital was overwhelmed by the number of victims. She described flaccid children gasping their last breaths. She cried telling me how she performed CPR hopelessly on small children, trying to resuscitate them. The worst thing for a doctor is not to be able to save the life of a patient, especially if that patient is a healthy child.

What has happened in Douma is not new in Syria. A year ago, a similar attack with sarin nerve gas in Khan Sheikhoun in the north led to the deaths of about 100 people, including 33 children.

Syrian President Bashar Assad, with the help of his allies Russia and Iran, has been bombing Douma after the breakdown of negotiations with the rebel group, Jaish al-Islam, which controls the city. Douma had a population of 500,000 before the crisis. The location is not far from the infamous nerve gas attack in August 2013, when 1,400 people suffocated to death after exposure to sarin gas. The Syrian regime was blamed for the attack.

At that time, President Barack Obama did not follow through on his 2012 warning that there would be consequences if the Syrian government crossed a "red line." The red line referred to use of chemical weapons and was meant to prevent Assad from using those internationally prohibited weapons against his people. Well, the red line was crossed, not one time, but more than 200 times, according to a recent report by the Syrian Network for Human Rights.

The report outlines repeated use of chemical weapons by the Syrian regime between December 2012 and February 2018, noting that scores of attacks occurred after a 2013 United Nations

resolution required the Syrian government to destroy its full stockpile of chemical weapons.

There has been no accountability. Instead, the use of chemical weapons has been normalized, and the lack of accountability has set a dangerous precedent. It probably gave the green light to other regimes and dictators to use chemical agents with impunity against their foes. The nerve agent VX was used to assassinate North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's half brother in Malaysia in February 2017. And recently, the nerve agent Novichok was used to poison former Russian spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter, Yulia, in southern England — the first time chemical weapons have been used in Europe since World War II.

After each massacre in Syria, the world is apparently caught by surprise. Innocent children die because of a shortage of antidotes, ventilators, oxygen and doctors.

After so many attacks in Syria with chemical agents, the World Health Organization and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, which is responsible for enforcement of chemical weapons protocols, still don't have in place a process to confirm quickly which chemical agent has been used in an attack.

In response to the Khan Sheikhoun attack in April 2017, the United States fired a few long-range missiles onto the Syrian airfield used by the fighter jets that dropped their loads of nerve gas in that attack.

It was more of a slap on the wrist to prevent further use of the illegal agents and to affirm the norms of war. But apparently the message was not heard in Damascus. There have been multiple uses of chemical agents directed at rebel-controlled areas since last year.

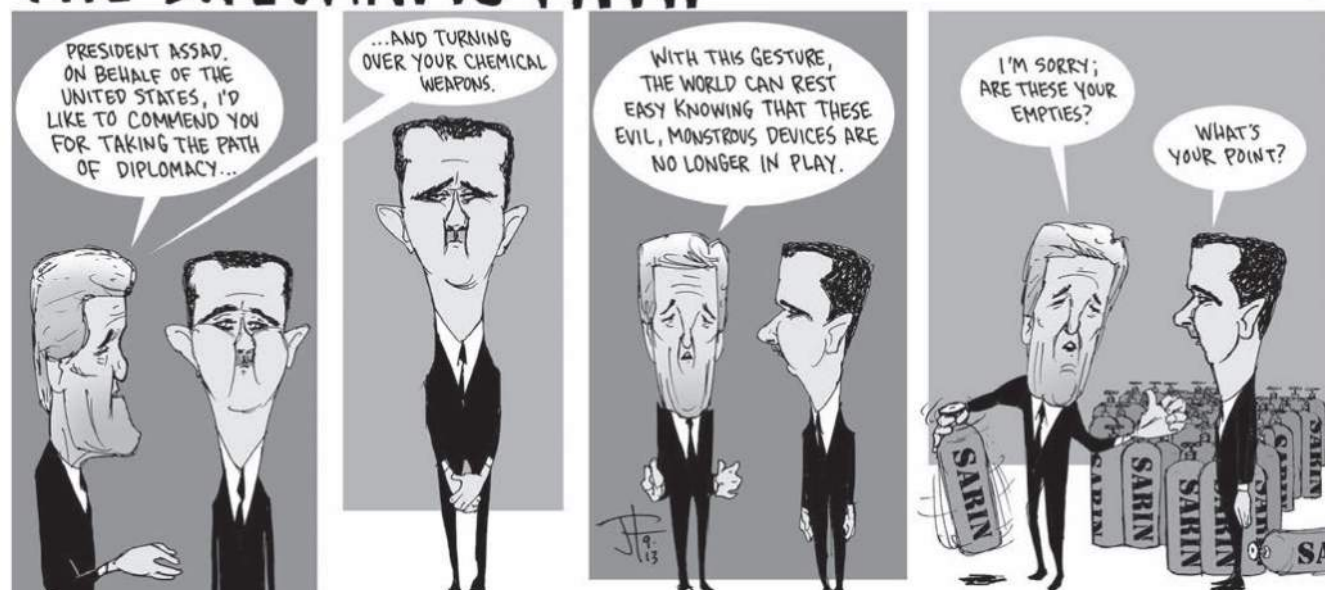
President Donald Trump has a responsibility to prevent further normalization of the use of chemical weapons — especially on the heels of his recent comments about a possible early U.S. withdrawal from Syria that may have emboldened the brutal regime and its allies. He can also lead in bringing an end to the ongoing Syrian genocide that has destabilized our allies in the region and in Europe, and caused a global refugee crisis. He can do that by pressuring all parties, particularly Russia, to accept political transition away from the current brutal regime.

I asked the medical student Bushra what she wants. "Stop the hell raining on us from the skies," she said. Bushra wants to finish her medical school training and become a pediatrician. She and her colleagues are dreaming of a day when all Syrian children are able, once again, to get out from their shelters, play in open-air parks, go to schools built above ground and breathe the air without choking.

Dr. Zaher Sahloul is a Syrian-American critical care specialist at Christ Advocate Medical Center in Oak Lawn, Ill., and president of MedGlobal, a nonprofit organization that sends medical missions to disaster areas. This was written for the Chicago Tribune.

THE DIPLOMATIC PATH

BY JOE "PAVED WITH GOOD INTENTIONS" FOURNIER

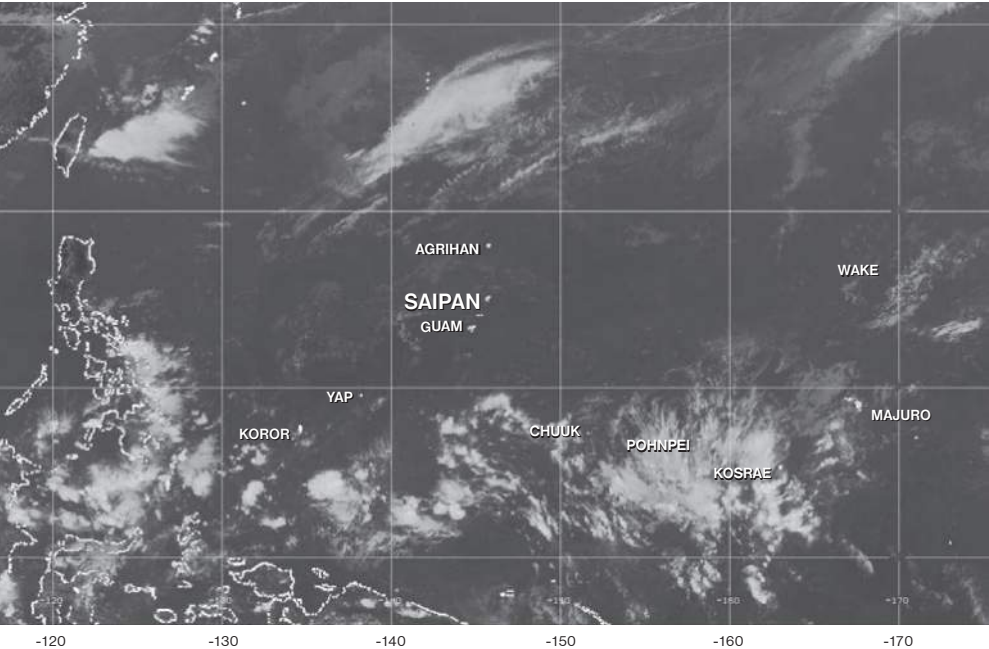


The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼77°	▲89° ▼77°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:15 AM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Little change is seen in Marianas weather through Friday, but an increase in moisture is still expected late Saturday with more clouds and isolated thunderstorms Saturday night through Monday. GFS has been backing off on rainfall with each model run, but the ECMWF is still advertising 2-3 inches of rain the next week or so. Northwest swell should be peaking this morning, and is expected to slowly diminish the next 36 hours as east swell remains fairly steady at 4 to 6 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	85° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 81°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Showers	66° / 59°	
Beijing	Showers	54° / 45°	
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	82° / 75°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	81° / 72°	
London	Showers	57° / 46°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	69° / 53°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	93° / 79°	
Melbourne	Sunny	81° / 61°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	78° / 72°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	62° / 54°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	68° / 52°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	66° / 48°	
Busan	Rain	63° / 48°	
Rome	Showers	64° / 48°	
Salem	Mostly Sunny	77° / 52°	
San Francisco	Windy	56° / 46°	
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	64° / 46°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	70° / 52°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	75° / 57°	

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:45 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.77	
11:51 AM	LOW TIDE	0.86	
5:05 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.60	
11:45 PM	LOW TIDE	0.26	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:05 AM	6:30 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Saturday	6:03 AM	6:31 PM
Sunday	6:03 AM	6:31 PM
Monday	6:02 AM	6:31 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	3:20 AM	3:14 PM	-
Friday	4:02 AM	4:05 PM	-
Saturday	4:43 AM	4:57 PM	-
Sunday	5:25 AM	5:49 PM	-
Monday	6:08 AM	6:44 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 19, 2017									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily		UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily	
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily		UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily	
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota		UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6		UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota	
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily		UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily	
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily		UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily	
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7		UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6	
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7		UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6	
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:15pm	Daily		DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily	
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7		7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4	
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5		7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily		7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily	
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1		OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7	
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily	
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7		OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily		LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7	
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily		7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7		3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (GHG)						HANGZHOU (GHG)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1		JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4	
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4		JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7	
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6		3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7		MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN		UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM	
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM		OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM		OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM		PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM	
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM		UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM	
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR						
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4		OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN		OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7	
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7		U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7	
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6	
					UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily

1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily



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BETTER CHEF .75L CITRUS JUICER **\$13⁹⁵**



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Business

Docomo Pacific's Kriegel is named to a new senior post

TAMUNING, Guam—Docomo Pacific congratulates its president and CEO, Jonathan Kriegel, who will transition to another senior position within the NTT Docomo Group in July of this year.

NTT Docomo has named Roderick Boss to succeed Kriegel as president and CEO of Docomo Pacific. Boss brings diverse telecom experience from years spent at AirTouch, AT&T, Japan Telecom America and Pacific Crossing Limited.

"I'm excited to be part of the exciting future of Docomo Pacific," said Boss. "Through my many years working in telecommunications, I have always had the highest respect for Docomo and NTT as both a partner and a competitor. I was in Guam for a short time a number of years ago and look forward to getting to know it better and working closely together with all employees, customers, and partners."

Kriegel, or "JK" as he is known to his colleagues and friends, joined Docomo Pacific in 2014 at the close of its merger with Marianas Cable Vision, at which time he played an instrumental role in the company's transition from an important mobile player to

a market leader in quadplay communications.

Over the past four years, Kriegel has led the business in making improvements to



Kriegel



Boss

the quality of its network, enhancing the customer experience, and expanding products and services in Guam and the CNMI.

Nate Taimanglo, the chief people officer of Docomo Pacific, said that the company "is driven by its purpose to bring you and your family closer to the things that matter most. JK has championed this purpose, activating our 'Better Together' promise and bringing a renewed focus to our company culture. He has also reactivated our relationship within the communities in which we serve."

Among the many Docomo milestones that happened under Kriegel's watch are the expansion of the mobile network in Guam and introduction of

Carrier WiFi; enhanced the fixed network and launched first triple-digit online speeds up to 100 mbps; introduced TiVo; completed the construction of Atisa, the second undersea cable in the CNMI and the first new system in nearly 20 years; launched a full range of fixed and mobile services on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, including the widest 4G LTE network in the Marianas and high-definition TV channels; and relocated

Hthe Docomo headquarters to the Ben Franklin building.

"With Jonathan's success at Docomo Pacific, we are very happy that he will be continuing on in a new role in our NTT Docomo family. We strongly believe he has left his mark with the company as they strive to become a high-performing organization," said Katsuyuki Takagi, executive general manager of Global Business Division, NTT Docomo.

Docomo Pacific is a wholly owned subsidiary of NTT Docomo. Headquartered in Tamuning, Guam, Docomo Pacific provides telecommunications and entertainment services in Guam and the Northern Marianas Islands. *(Saipan Tribune)*

CEO Zuckerberg says sorry

WASHINGTON (AP)—Under fire for the worst privacy debacle in his company's history, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg batted away often-aggressive questioning from lawmakers who accused him of failing to protect the personal information of millions of Americans from Russians intent on upsetting the U.S. election.

During some five hours of Senate questioning Tuesday, Zuckerberg apologized several times for Facebook failures, disclosed that his company was "working with" special coun-

sel Robert Mueller in the federal probe of Russian election interference and said it was working hard to change its own operations after the harvesting of users' private data by a data-mining company affiliated with Donald Trump's campaign.

Seemingly unimpressed, Republican Sen. John Thune of South Dakota said Zuckerberg's company had a 14-year history of apologiz-

ing for "ill-advised decisions" related to user privacy. "How is today's apology different?" Thune asked.

threatened to escalate into an all-out trade war.

The report did not mention President Donald Trump but it was clearly referring to his trade policies, which have involved threatening China with higher tariffs on tens of billions of dollars of exports in a dispute that centers on complaints from foreign companies that say they're forced to hand over their technology. Beijing has responded with its own proposed list of tariffs of a similar amount.

ADB raises Asia growth outlook

HONG KONG (AP)—Developing Asian economies will expand at a slightly faster pace this year than earlier forecast, but trade tensions with the U.S. pose a major risk, the Asian Development Bank said Wednesday in its latest regional update.

The Manila, Philippines-based lender said it expects the region to expand at a 6 percent clip in 2018, slightly above its previous forecast, after record-

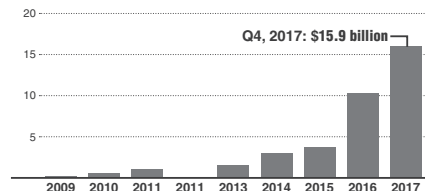
ing 6.1 percent growth last year. For 2019, it predicts growth will ease to 5.9 percent.

The bank said robust exports and strong domestic consumer demand are supporting activity across the 45 economies it covers in its annual report.

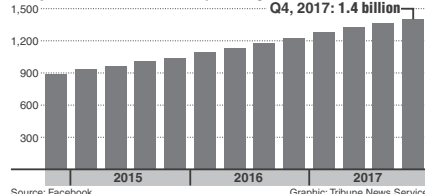
Risks to the growth outlook are driven mainly by "fears of escalating trade tensions," it said, referring to China-U.S. trade tensions that have

Facebook

Net income in billions of dollars



Daily active users Quarterly average, in millions



Source: Facebook

Graphic: Tribune News Service

Nation

Trump axes trip amid discussions over Syria and FBI raid on lawyer

WASHINGTON (AP)—With federal agents digging into his personal affairs, Donald Trump drove his West Wing into deeper tumult Tuesday, canceling a South American trip to consider a military strike in Syria and bidding farewell to another top aide amid a continual staffing shakeup.

Trump, still fuming after agents on Monday raided the office of his personal attorney, Michael Cohen, has privately pondered firing Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein and publicly mused about firing special counsel Robert Mueller. The raid, in which agents seized re-



Trump

records on topics including a \$130,000 payment to a porn actress who alleges she had sex with Trump in 2006, comes as the president weighs imminent military action in Syria and ahead of what was supposed to be his first trip to Latin America this weekend.

Trump had been telling confidants for weeks that he was not eager to make the three-day trip, which had already been shortened from original plans, according to two people who have discussed it with him in recent weeks but were not authorized to disclose the private conversations. His decision

not to travel was publicly tied to the need to monitor the situation in Syria, but privately Trump said he didn't want to be away from the White House amid developments in the China trade dispute and in the Mueller investigation.

A year ago, the president ordered a round of airstrikes while hosting Chinese President Xi Jinping at his private Florida club, Mar-a-Lago.

Trump also expressed confidence in the loyalty displayed by Cohen, his longtime personal and professional fixer, who ascended to one of the most powerful roles at the Trump Organization not filled by

a family member. Cohen has steadfastly denied wrongdoing in his payment to adult-film actress Stormy Daniels and has publicly defended Trump, but he has confided in associates that he is fearful of being a fall guy, according to a person familiar with his thinking but not authorized to speak publicly about private discussions.

After the raid, Trump was the most irate his advisers had seen him in weeks, according to five people familiar with the president's views but not authorized to discuss them publicly. Trump tweeted Tuesday that "Attorney-client privilege is dead!" Nervous

White House aides expressed new fears about the president's unpredictability in the face of the Cohen raid, which he viewed as an assault on a longtime defender and a sign that Mueller's probe into potential ties between Russia and the Trump campaign was "going too far."

Cohen has said he took out a personal line of credit on his home to pay Daniels days before the 2016 election without Trump's knowledge. The raid was overseen by the U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan and based in part on a referral from Mueller.

Press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders made clear that White House officials have explored Trump's authority to fire Mueller.

"He certainly believes that he has the power to do so," she said at Tuesday's press briefing.

Under Justice Department regulations, only Rosenstein, who oversees the Russia investigation, can fire Mueller.

Trump spent Monday evening calling associates to vent and gauge their reaction to the news. He bitterly complained that the raids were meant to ruin Cohen's life and expressed frustration that it was another front from which to attack his presidency, according to a person familiar with the conversations but not permitted to discuss them publicly.

Gradual deployment of US troops to Mexican border now underway

ROMA, Texas (AP)—The deployment of National Guard members to the U.S.-Mexico border at President Donald Trump's request was underway Tuesday with a gradual ramp-up of troops under orders to help curb illegal immigration.

The Trump administration also announced that Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen will visit this week a stretch of new border wall breaking ground in New Mexico, putting additional focus on what Trump has called a crisis of migrant crossings and crime.

The construction and commitment of at least 1,600 Guard members from Arizona, New Mexico and Texas provoked fresh condemnation from immigrant activists and praise from border-state Republican governors, who

will retain command-and-control of their state's Guard during a mission that for now has no firm end date.

The only holdout border state was California, led by Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown, who has not announced whether troops from his state's National Guard will participate and has repeatedly clashed with Trump over immigration policy. The state was still reviewing Tuesday whether it will join the effort, said Lt. Tom Keegan, a spokesman for the California National Guard.

In Texas, where Republican Gov. Greg Abbott has pledged to put more than 1,000 Guard members into action, military officials said Tuesday that 300 troops would report to armories this week for preparation and

training. Texas has previously kept about 100 Guard members stationed on the border for years as part of its own border security efforts.

"What is different now it is happening in a different context and a different narrative," said Fernando Garcia, director of the Border Network for Human Rights, an immigrant advocacy group.

Speaking from the Rio Grande Valley where immigrant crossings are the highest along the 2,000-mile (3,200-kilometer) U.S.-Mexico border, Garcia said, "When you hear the narrative of the president, it seems to him the enemy is the immigrant family."

Abbott said in a statement Tuesday that the Guard has "proven to have a meaningful impact" in reducing immigration and crime.

Asia

By **CHRISTOPHER BODEEN**,
ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN A POTENTIAL TRADE WAR

Xi vs Trump: Who has the better hand?

BEIJING (AP)—The brewing China-U.S. trade conflict features two leaders who've expressed friendship but are equally determined to pursue their nation's interests and their own political agendas.

But while President Donald Trump faces continuing churn in his administration and a tough challenge in midterm congressional elections, China's Xi Jinping leads an outwardly stable authoritarian regime. Xi recently succeeded in pushing through a constitutional reform allowing him to rule for as long as he wishes while facing no serious electoral challenge.

A look at some of the issues that could determine the outcome of the trade spat:

FRIENDLY TALK

Although Trump sounded tough

on the campaign trail and has challenged Beijing over trade and Taiwan, he professes admiration for his Chinese counterpart and complimented him on his ability to remove term limits on his presidential rule.

"President Xi and I will always be friends, no matter what happens with our dispute on trade," Trump said in a tweet Sunday. "China's great and Xi is a great gentleman," he said in remarks at a Republican fundraiser last month obtained by CNN.

Xi has generally limited his comments to emphasizing the benefits of a close China-U.S. relationship and thanking Trump in a phone call on March 10 for congratulating him on his obtaining a second term as president.



In this combination of Nov. 9, 2017 photos, U.S. President Donald Trump, right, and Chinese President Xi Jinping speak during a business event at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

A pair of summits between the leaders in the U.S. and China over the past year were also hailed by China as successes.

FAMILY BACKGROUNDS

Both Trump and Xi come from privileged backgrounds, although their routes to political power were decidedly different. Both, however, have built their reputations on a robust form of nationalism, with Trump promoting "America First" and Xi identifying himself with the "Chinese Dream" of rising prosperity accompanied by muscular defense and

foreign policies.

Trump was born the son of a New York City real estate mogul and rose to the presidency on a populist wave after a career as a property developer and reality TV star. Xi's father was a colleague of Mao Zedong, whose influence is believed to have aided his rise through a series of military, government and Communist Party positions before he was named party leader in 2012.

Both also show an affection for strong-man leadership, and while American democracy is far removed from China's one-party authoritarian sys-

tem, Trump's verbal attacks on the mainstream media and certain judges have drawn criticism. They both also place a strong emphasis on the military, including increased defense budgets and an appreciation for military parades, two of which Xi has led during his time in office.

DRIVING FORCES

Xi's plan to create Chinese global competitors in fields including robotics, electric cars and pharmaceuticals is seen as precipitating the current crisis, while Trump appears motivated by a desire to shore up Ameri-

ca's manufacturing strength.

Neither wants to be seen as backing down, and though Xi's usually soft-spoken manner contrasts Trump's trademark bravado, both "are thin-skinned bullies who place a lot of value on portraying strength," said Liz Economy, a leading academic on China and author of "The Third Revolution: Xi Jinping and the New Chinese State."

"This makes it difficult to ramp down in this one-on-one tariff death match," although both have the capacity via Twitter or state media to trumpet their success and ignore any failings once the dispute has concluded, Economy said.

LET'S MAKE A DEAL

While the current dispute has focused on trade, many other factors are in play, bringing out the bargaining qualities and transactional natures of the two leaders and their administrations. Opinions on who has the upper hand differ widely.

By pursuing the tariff threat and backing complaints about intellectual property theft, Trump has "successfully changed the fundamentals of ... U.S.-China relations," said Miles Yu Maochun, a China politics expert at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Yu also points to recent U.S. policy on North Korea, particularly Trump's acceptance of an invitation to talks with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un as early as next month that appeared to catch Beijing off guard.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Ranking Chinese diplomat to visit North Korea

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese state media reported Wednesday that a high-ranking Chinese diplomat plans to travel to Pyongyang later this week amid a flurry of diplomacy following North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's surprise visit to Beijing. Song Tao, who heads the ruling Communist Party's International Department, will lead an art troupe to Pyongyang on Friday to attend an arts festival, the Xinhua News Agency said. It said Song had been invited by the International Department of the North Korea's ruling Worker's Party. No details were given about any officials he would meet. Kim made an unannounced trip to Beijing last month ahead of potentially breakthrough meetings with South Korean President Moon Jae-in and President Donald Trump.

Police: Indonesia bootleg alcohol deaths exceed 100

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Deaths from drinking toxic bootleg alcohol in Indonesia have exceeded 100 this month, police said Wednesday as they vowed a "scorched earth" crackdown on the makers and distributors of black-market liquor. Deputy National Police Chief Muhammad Syafruddin said deaths this month have been concentrated in populous West Java and Jakarta, the capital, but there were also cases in South Kalimantan and other regions that bring fatalities to more than 100.

Indonesian TV has broadcast images of distraught relatives in several cities and lines of gurneys bearing dead bodies in hospital hallways as the death toll relentlessly climbed since late last week. There were 31 deaths in Jakarta and satellite cities at the beginning of the month followed by a dramatic surge in hospitalizations and deaths in West Java.

Sherpa guide tries to reach top of the world for 22nd time

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Three men have climbed to the top of the world 21 times, all of them mountain guides who grew up in the shadow of Mount Everest. Two of these famed Sherpa guides have retired. But 48-year-old Kami Rita says he'll be summiting Everest for years to come. "My goal is to reach the summit of Everest at least 25 times," he told The Associated Press in Kathmandu, Nepal's capital, shortly before heading back to the mountain for what he hopes will mark a record-breaking climb. "I want to set a new record not just for myself but for my family, the Sherpa people and for my country, Nepal." For Rita, climbing is a family tradition. His father was among the first professional guides after Nepal opened to foreign trekkers and mountaineers in 1950. His brother has scaled Everest 17 times. Most of his male relatives have reached the top least once. He decided to become a guide when he was a child. "Growing up in the village I envied the good clothes and things that people in the village brought back after expeditions," he said.



Northern Marianas College Procurement & Property Management Office

P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
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E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS NMC IFB 18-006

PARKING LOT DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Northern Marianas College (The College) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of Parking Lot Drainage Improvement Project for the As Terlaje, Saipan Campus.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday, March 12, 2018, between the hours of 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Bid Submissions are due no later than 10:00 a.m., April 13, 2018, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: May request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The College reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement & Property Manager

A Land Grant Institution accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and by The Senior Commission for Colleges and Universities of the Western Association for Schools and Colleges



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
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www.crm.gov.mp



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CAPITAL HILL WONDERLAND PROJECT

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing for the proposed construction and operation of the Capital Hill Wonderland project.

The Palette, Inc. is proposing to construct and operate a planned development project with a total of 57 units and a club house on Capitol Hill, Saipan. The project will include:

- Twenty-one (21) villa/units of Standard Housing at 166 square meters per unit;
- Twenty-six (26) units of Master Housing at 249 square meters per unit with terrace; and
- Ten (10) units of Luxury Housing at 420 square meters per unit with individual terrace

The four-story Club House will cover about 1,800 square meters and include kitchen areas, theater, reception areas, VIP café, gift shop, restaurants, and a swimming pool and deck with terraces on the fourth floor. The project is proposed on approximately 20,484 square meters or about 2.05 hectares on private property on Lots E.A. 411 New-1 and 035 E 20.

The public hearing for this project is scheduled for **Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 4:30PM. Location to be announced.**

Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM Office, Suite 305, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mailed to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, Caller Box 10007 or by fax at 664-8315. The project files are open for review and comments during regular business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. All written and oral comments received by DCRM will be included as part of the permit application records and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed projects. Please contact the DCRM at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Capital Hill Wonderland project.

/s/ Janice E. Castro
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

World

Chemical weapons experts to inspect attack site in Syria

By BASSEM MROUE and
ZEINA KARAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIRUT (AP)—The international chemical weapons watchdog said Tuesday it was sending a fact-finding mission to the Syrian town where a suspected chemical gas attack took place over the weekend, following a request from the Syrian government and its Russian backers that appeared to be aimed at averting punitive Western military action.

It was not immediately clear whether the announcement would delay or prevent a U.S. strike in Syria. President Donald Trump has vowed to respond “forcefully” to Saturday’s attack on civilians in the town of Douma, and warned that Russia—or any other nation found to share responsibility—will “pay a price.”

In a statement, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons said a fact-finding mission was “preparing to deploy to Syria shortly,” though it did not give a more precise timetable on when the inspectors would arrive.

Trump on Tuesday cancelled plans to travel to South America later this week, choosing to stay in the United States to manage the response to the events in Syria. The White House said he later spoke with British Prime Minister Theresa May and the two “agreed not to allow the use of chemical weapons to continue.” Trump also discussed Syria with French President Emmanuel Macron, who said Tuesday that France would decide in the coming days on “a strong and joint response” with the U.S. and Britain to the suspected attack.

The incident has sparked international outrage and ratcheted up tensions in the already volatile Mideast, raising the



AP
This Sunday, April 8, 2018 file image made from video released by the Syrian Civil Defense White Helmets, shows medical workers treating toddlers following an alleged poison gas attack in the opposition-held town of Douma, in eastern Ghouta, near Damascus, Syria.

specter of possible imminent American retaliation amid Russia’s warnings against any such action, and denials that any chemical weapons attack took place.

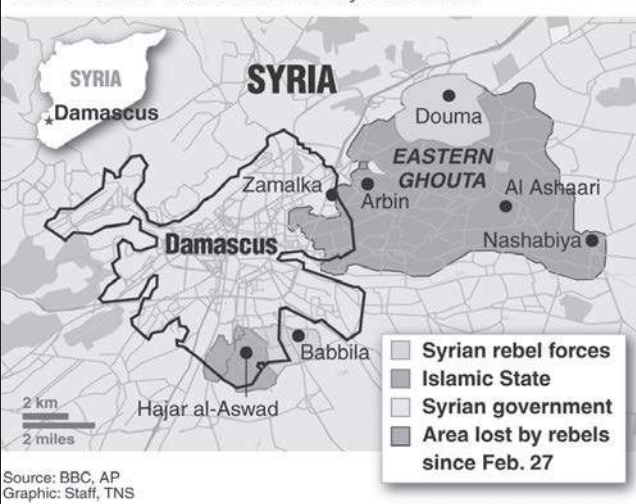
Adding to the tensions, Iran, a strong ally of Syrian President Bashar Assad, threatened to respond to an airstrike on a Syrian military base on Monday that the Syrian government, Russia and Iran blamed on Israel.

Seven Iranians were among the estimated 14 people killed in the missile strike, and a senior Iranian official visiting Damascus said the attack “will not remain unanswered.” Ali Akbar Velayati, an aide to Iran’s supreme leader, spoke upon arrival in the Syrian capital on Tuesday.

The Syrian air base was struck by missiles a little more than 24 hours after the alleged chemical attack. Israel does not typically comment on its

Douma occupied by rebel forces

The Syrian government said it has achieved significant progress in its ongoing military operation in eastern Ghouta, but the Douma area of Eastern Ghouta is still held by rebel forces.



operations in Syria, and it is unclear whether the missile attack was linked to the alleged use of chemical weapons.

Iran is one of Assad’s strongest backers and has sent thou-

sands of troops and allied militiamen to support his forces.

Syrian government forces were on high alert and taking precautionary measures Tuesday at military positions across

the country amid fears of a U.S. strike in the aftermath of the attack near Damascus.

At the United Nations, meanwhile, Russia vetoed a U.S.-drafted U.N. resolution that would have condemned the suspected gas attack and established a new body to determine responsibility for Syrian chemical weapons attacks. The vote Tuesday in the 15-member Security Council was 12 in favor, with Bolivia joining Russia in voting “no,” and China abstaining.

Chemical weapons attacks have killed hundreds of people since the start of Syria’s conflict, with the U.N. blaming four attacks on the Syrian government and a fifth on the Islamic State group.

The OPCW, in its statement, said its technical Secretariat has asked the Syrian government to make the necessary arrangements for the deploy-

ment of a fact-finding mission. The group is the implementing body for the Chemical Weapons Convention of 1997, which has been signed by 192 member states.

Syria became a member in 2013 as part of a deal brokered by the U.S. and Russia after a chemical attack in eastern Ghouta killed hundreds of people. That attack was widely blamed on government forces, who denied responsibility.

Syrian opposition activists and paramedics said more than 40 people were killed in last weekend’s suspected chemical attack and blamed the government. The Syrian government and its Russian backers strongly deny the allegations, and questioned whether a chemical weapons attack even took place.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said Tuesday he was outraged by the reported attack, and that the use of chemical weapons would be a violation of international law. He also reaffirmed his support for an OPCW investigation.

A senior Russian lawmaker said Tuesday that Moscow is willing to help arrange an OPCW visit to the site of the suspected attack. Yevgeny Serberennikov, from the defense committee at the Federation Council, told the RIA Novosti news agency that Russia is eager for the OPCW to “finally start carrying out the functions it was created for.”

KFAR SABA, Israel (AP)

— While most of his fellow Jews were being killed or brutalized in Nazi death camps and ghettos, Baruch Shub and his friends were hiding in the forests of the former Soviet Union, trying to undermine the Nazis by derailing trains, burning bridges, sabotaging communication lines and killing the occasional collaborator.

“You couldn’t really fight the German army, given our means, but we did our best to disrupt them,” recalled the 94-year-old Shub at his retirement home in central Israel. “Whether or not it made a difference, I don’t know. But it gave me a great sense of joy that at least I was doing something to get even with them.”

As numbers dwindle, Jews who fought Nazis recall struggle

As Israel marks its annual Holocaust memorial day, those aging survivors who actively resisted and helped shape the country’s fighting spirit are quickly disappearing. Shub is among perhaps only a handful of remaining Soviet partisan fighters. Only two remain from the greatest symbol of resistance of all — the 1943 Warsaw ghetto uprising.

Israel will come to a standstill Thursday for its annual remembrance of the Holocaust’s 6 million victims. It falls on the same date on the Hebrew calendar as the Warsaw uprising — the ultimately doomed

revolt that played such an important role in defining the country’s psyche.

Even the day’s official name — “Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day” — alludes to the image of the Jewish warrior upon which the state was founded.

The conditions for resistance were limited, he said, given the all-encompassing scope of the Nazi genocide, but those who could fight back did so. With their actions, he said they continued a tradition dating back to biblical times.

“Jews always fought for their survival and national honor,” he said. “I want history to remem-

ber that Jews did not walk like cattle to their slaughter.”

Shub’s mother and three siblings were murdered by Nazis and their local collaborators in his native Lithuania. After a failed uprising in the Vilna ghetto, he escaped to the forests to join the underground network led by famed resistance fighter Abba Kovner. Four battalions of Jewish fighters raided villages for food and supplies and hacked away at communication and electricity lines used by German forces, he said.

After the Red Army liberated the ghetto in what is now called Vilnius in 1944,

Shub returned to find all its Jews killed by Nazi SS troops. Among the bodies strewn on the street was that of his father. A blood-soaked note in his hand, written in Yiddish, said, “If anyone sees my son, tell him to take revenge.”

Israel’s identity is defined by the axiom that never again will Jews be helpless in the face of annihilation. But Shub fears that message is being lost. He is angered that a planned museum to honor Jewish fighters, along with the 1.5 million Jewish World War II veterans, has been bogged down in bureaucratic delays for more than a decade.

Dina Porat, chief historian at Israel’s Yad Vashem memorial, said that thanks to the many books, films and collected testimony, there is little danger of their legacy being erased. Still, the live witness accounts pose a powerful rebuke to the current wave of historic revisionism in several eastern European countries to play down their own wartime complicity.

Survivors have been outraged by a Polish law criminalizing the blaming of Poland for crimes committed by Germany during the Holocaust. Lithuania also has recently pushed for legislation to prohibit the sale of books that “distort Lithuanian history” by mentioning its complicity.

Environment

Philippines to shut polluted isle Duterte called a cesspool

By AARON FAVILA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has approved the closure of the tourist destination of Boracay for up to six months after saying the waters off its famed white-sand beaches had become a “cesspool” due to overcrowding and development.

Duterte approved the total shutdown of Boracay as a tourist destination starting April 26 in a Cabinet meeting Wednesday night after extensive discussions of its impact, including ways to help about 17,000 workers who may be displaced, tourism undersecretary Frederick Alegre said Thursday.

“This is not about profit, it’s about the political will to deal with years of neglect of the environment,” Alegre said. “We need to act swiftly to save the island and avert its further deterioration.”

Last February, Duterte said Boracay’s water has turned into a “cesspool” with human waste being discharged into the sea.

More than 2 million tourists visited Boracay last year to enjoy its powdery beaches, spectacular sunsets and festive nightlife, generating about 56 billion pesos (\$1 billion) in revenue. But the influx of tourists, neglected infrastructure and growth of resort establishments and poor settlements have threatened to turn Boracay into a “dead island” in less than a decade, according to a government study.

The island can only sustain 30,000 people but teems with 70,000 at any time, including



In this March 12, 2018, photo, foreign tourists sunbathe at a beach on Boracay island, central Aklan province, Philippines.



the release of the Leonardo DiCaprio movie, “The Beach,” in 2000 made picturesque Maya Bay so popular it stayed open year-round. It averages 200 boats and 4,000 visitors daily, but recent surveys found the area’s coral reefs and sea life damaged or gone.

Other Thai destinations ruined by mass tourism, Koh Yoong in the Phi Phi island chain and Koh Tachai in the Similan Islands National Park, have been off-limits to tourists permanently since mid-2016.

50,000 residents and daily arrivals of about 20,000 tourists, Alegre said.

Hundreds of settlers have also illegally built homes and structures in forests and protected wetlands over the years, officials said.

Only about 47 percent of the hundreds of establishments are connected to the island’s main sewerage treatment plant, with many of the rest possibly maintaining crude septic tanks and others discharging their waste directly into the sea, Alegre said.

Parts of the 1,000-hectare (2,471-acre) island in central Aklan province could re-open earlier than six months if sewage containment and treatment

systems could be built earlier and beach resorts comply with environmental regulations, he said.

Philippine Airlines said it would reduce flights en route to airports serving as a gateway to the small island, about 315 kilometers (196 miles) south of Manila.

Deputy Executive Secretary Menardo Guevarra said emergency calamity funds would be used to help workers at tourist establishments affected by Boracay’s temporary closure.

About 17,000 are employed in Boracay’s tourist establishments, and 10,000 to 12,000 others benefit from the bustling tourism business.

A similar decision was made in Thailand where Maya Bay, on Phi Phi Leh island in the Andaman Sea, will be

closed for four months starting in June.

Many Thai marine parks close for part of the year but

More organic than thou? Rebel farmers create new food label

THETFORD, Vt. (AP) — Was your tomato grown in dirt or water? Organic shoppers might notice additional labels this summer that will give them the answer — and tell them whether their choices align with what a rebellious group of farmers and scientists deem the true spirit of the organic movement.

About 15 farmers and scientists from around the country met in Vermont late last month to create the standards for an additional organic certification program, which they plan to roll out nationally to between 20 to 60 farms as a pilot this summer.

Under the current U.S. Department of Agriculture program, the organic label means that your tomato has

been produced without synthetic substances — with some exceptions — and without certain methods, like genetic engineering. The additional label, which does not yet have a name or wording, would indicate that a tomato, for example, has been grown in soil, and that meat and dairy products came from farms that pasture their animals.

An inspector would certify that the farm has complied with the new standards, and the farms — not distributors — would add the label.

The move comes five months after the National Organic Standard Board, which advises the U.S. Department of Agriculture, voted against a proposal to exclude from the USDA’s organic certifica-

tion program hydroponics — raising plants with water but no soil — and aquaponics, in which plants and aquatic animals, such as fish, are grown within one system.

“I think that a lot of farmers, especially young farmers, feel that the organic label no longer describes the way they farm, and we’re trying to recapture that,” said Linley Dixon, a vegetable farmer in Durango, Colorado, and senior scientist for Cornucopia Institute, who is also on the standards board of the Real Organic Project.

The group creating the new label, which calls itself the Real Organic Project, said it has not abandoned the National Organic Program, which is the federal standard, and is not attacking organic farmers.

WITH HEARTFELT GRATITUDE

We, the family of the late

Antonio Quitugua Naog

Lovingly known as “Tony Boy”

When I Lost You
*I wish I could see you one more time,
Come walking through the door...
But I know that is impossible,
I will hear your voice no more.*

*I know you can feel my tears
And you don't want me to cry
Yet my heart is broken because
I can't understand why someone
So precious had to die.*

*I pray that God will give me strength
And somehow get me through...
As I struggle with the heartache
That came When I Lost You.*

Wish to extend our deepest and warmest appreciation to all our relatives and friends for the genuine compassion you have showed us during our greatest and most painful time of sorrow. Your thoughtful prayers, comforting words, and unending support to include other considerate acts of grace did much to calm the ache in our hearts and with time may our pain lessen as memories gently turn tears to smiles. We would like to acknowledge and cherish the time you devoted to us, your kindness has touched us all and we will forever remember you. To our techa's, members of the Santa Remedios Parish, and countless others, we can't thank you enough for your love and prayers during our most difficult time.

Man sen magof ham para in ekstende un sinceru yan dangkulu na si Yu'us Ma'ase pot i tinayuyot yan finatton-miyu ginen i diuranten i piniten mami. In sen agradesi todus hamyu yan talu un dangkulu na si Yu'us Ma'ase ginen i familian i difuntu as Antonio Quitugua Naog (Tony Boy).

Thank You, Ghillisow & Si Yu'us Ma'ase,
The Children and Family

Life & Style

There's royalty, and there's royalty, American style

By **LEANNE ITALIE**
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Bey and Jay. Michelle and Barack. Kim and Kanye. Throw in some political dynasties—Kennedys and Bushes, for instance—and there's plenty of royalty, American style, to go around.

After the end of Camelot, when Jacqueline Kennedy became Jackie O, after Liz and Richard (Taylor and Burton) married and remarried, and after the messy undoing of Brangelina, fan worship minus thrones and crowns keeps the idea of faux royalty alive where the real deal doesn't exist.

So who's on tap, alongside the Trump family affair? A look at a few pop royals:

GEORGE & AMAL

She's a British-Lebanese lawyer on the international stage, a human rights activist and an author. He's the affable American pretty boy with a fine head of hair and a million-dollar smile. Make that a multimillion-dollar smile and a healthy dose of gray up top nowadays.

George Clooney and Amal Alamuddin took to Venice, Italy,



In this Sept. 2, 2017 file photo, George Clooney, left, and his wife Amal Clooney pose for photographers upon arrival at the premiere of the film "Suburbicon" during the 74th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy. AP

to marry in 2014. Their nuptials involved gondolas and megapaparazzi. This after a courtship that made Alamuddin, now a Clooney, a high-profile fashion icon as she continues to pursue her career.

Lately, it's been about work and the twins, a boy and girl for the golden couple. Ella and Alexander were born in June 2017.

George on why he married Amal: "She's an amazing human being. And she's caring. And she also happens to be one of the smartest people I've ever met. And she's got a great sense of humor."

WARREN & ANNETTE

There was that thing with the wrong envelope at the Oscars two years ago that had some baby boomers explaining: "Once upon a time there was this serial bachelor dude in Hollywood ..."

Warren Beatty, now 81, was once the bomb on the screen and off. There were always lots of women, until he took Annette Bening to lunch one November day in 1990. Beatty fell fast, drawn to her, he once said, because she "doesn't behave like an actress."

Well aware of his womanizing, Bening reportedly found Beatty "smart and fun and interesting."

They married in 1992 and have four kids. And remain married. I repeat, they've been married for 26 years.



In this Nov. 12, 2016 file photo, Annette Bening, left, and Warren Beatty arrive at the 2016 Governors Awards in Los Angeles. AP

BEYONCE & JAY-Z

Otherwise known as Blue Ivy's parents. The Carters just welcomed twins, Rumi and Sir, as they continue to reign.

Where did it all begin? Vulture once took a deep dive into their timeline and came up with this:

While they weren't the subject of relationship rumors until the October 2002 release of the Jay-Z single "'03 Bonnie & Clyde," featuring Bey on the hook, the two had become acquainted through the music scene well before that.

Jay has said the first meet was around 1997. Bey has said she was 18 when they first met and 19 when they first started dating, so around late 1999 or early 2000.

In any case, after years of will-they-or-won't-they wedding speculation, the two tied the knot on April 4, 2008, at Jay-Z's New York apartment.

He apologized on last year's "4:44" album for marital transgressions and told David Letterman recently on his "My Next Guest Needs No Introduction" show: "I have a beautiful wife who's understanding and knew that I'm not the worst of what I've done. And we did the hard work of going to therapy. We love each other. We put in the work."

MICHELLE & BARACK

So. Many. Obama. Memories.

We'll always have the portraits: his by Kehinde Wiley and hers by Amy Sherald.



This Jan. 20, 2009 file photo shows President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama at the Obama Home States Inaugural Ball in Washington. AP

The two Harvard Law School grads (different years) met at the Chicago corporate law firm Sidley Austin when Michelle was 25 and assigned as mentor to the 27-year-old Barack, a summer associate.

He had been hailed as a boy wonder in law school. Michelle wasn't initially impressed, but it didn't take her long to come around. Their first date was in 1989, an all-day affair that included a trip to the Art Institute of Chicago, a stroll down Michigan Avenue and a movie, Spike Lee's "Do the Right Thing."

"It was a cool date. We spent the whole day together. He was showing me all facets of his character," the former first lady has said of the future No. 44.

KIM & KANYE

These two Ks were in the friend zone for nine years before they began dating in 2012. The proposal is TV history.

Kanye did the asking Oct. 21, 2013, on Kim's 33rd birthday at



In this Dec. 1, 2008 file photo, hip-hop singer and entrepreneur Jay-Z and his wife singer-actress Beyoncé Knowles attend the premiere of "Cadillac Records" in New York. AP

AT&T Park in San Francisco, with friends and family gathered. Lorraine Schwartz was on hand. She's the celebrity jeweler who made Kim's 15-carat diamond engagement ring designed by Kanye and stolen in Kim's 2016 armed robbery in Paris.

On proposal day, the rapper flashed "PLEEEASE MARRY MEEE!" on the baseball park's jumbo screen and got down on



In this April 21, 2015 file photo, Kanye West, left, and Kim Kardashian attend the TIME 100 Gala, in New York. AP

one knee as a 50-piece orchestra played Lana Del Rey's "Young and Beautiful," with some Keri Hilson, Ne-Yo and Kanye's "Knock You Down" thrown in.

The two had their rehearsal dinner at Versailles in Paris, then whisked their guests off to Florence, Italy, for the ceremony in May 2014.

They now have three children, North, Saint and Chicago.

Jennifer Lawrence is a fan. She gushed when interviewing Kim while guest hosting "Jimmy Kimmel Live!": "I just can't wait for your kids to just be like teenagers. It's like the royal family. I'm just like, ahhh, what are they gonna do."

RUNNERS UP FOR ONE ALL

Oprah and boyfriend Stedman. Because, Oprah.

Javanka, as in Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump. Because, the base.

The King of Pop, the late Michael Jackson. He reportedly came up with the title himself.

The Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin. Somebody else came up with it and she has called it an "acknowledgment of my art."

The King of Rock 'n' Roll: Elvis. Make that kings: Chuck Berry. Make that three kings: Little Richard. Just because.

Venus, Serena Williams join Billie Jean King equal pay push

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**
AP SPORTS WRITER

A day before playing in the 2005 final at the All England Club, Venus Williams addressed a meeting of the Grand Slam Board, urging Wimbledon and the French Open to offer equal pay to male and female players.

"I said: 'All of our hearts beat the same. When your eyes are closed, you really can't tell, next to you, who's a man and who's a woman.' And (I asked them) to think about their daughters and their wives and sisters. How would they like them to be treated?" Williams recalled. "Sometimes, we lose track of, and don't even realize, our own bias and our own prejudice. And we have to confront ourselves."

The following afternoon,

she won one of her seven major singles championships. About 1½ years later, Wimbledon announced it would, indeed, offer the same prize money to men and women in all rounds of the tournament, and the French Open soon followed suit, eliminating the pay gap at the four majors.

Now, Williams and her sister, Serena, are adding their names and voices to the push for equal pay across all types of jobs that the Billie Jean King Leadership Initiative (BJKLI) is championing.

The two current tennis stars are joining the advisory board of the group founded by the former player, and Tuesday's announcement was timed to coincide with Equal Pay Day, which approximates how far into a new year a woman must work to earn what a man made by the previous Dec. 31.

‘Despacito,’ other videos altered by security breach at Vevo

NEW YORK (AP) — “Despacito” and other popular music videos were the target of a security breach on the

video sharing service Vevo.

The cover image of the Luis Fonsi/Daddy Yankee hit was replaced by an image of

masked people pointing guns. Clips by Taylor Swift, Drake, Selena Gomez and Shakira also were affected.

A YouTube spokesperson says the company worked with its partner to disable access after seeing “unusual up-

load activity” on some Vevo channels.

Vevo says the breach was contained and it is working to

reinstate all videos that were affected and restoring its service.

Vevo says it is investigating the source of the breach.

Seth Meyers' wife gives birth in lobby of their building

NEW YORK (AP)—Seth Myers says his new son was born in the lobby of their apartment building.

The “Late Night with Seth Meyers” host told his audience Monday about the birth of his second child.

Myers said he figured he had plenty of time when his wife, Alexi Ashe, went into labor Sunday. But she told him she

wasn't able to reach the car, and the baby arrived in the lobby.

The 44-year-old said he called 911 and over the course of a minute said, “We’re about to have a baby. We’re having a baby. We had a baby.”

Emergency responders took his wife and their son, Axel, to a hospital.

The couple have a 2-year-old son.

BMI to honor 51-time Oscar nominee John Williams with award

NEW YORK (AP) — Composer John Williams will be honored by performing rights organization BMI with an award bearing his name.

BMI says The John Williams Award will be presented to the

celebrated musician at the 34th annual BMI Film, TV and Visual Media Awards on May 9 in Beverly Hills, California.

Williams has won five Academy Awards throughout his illustrious career, most recently for best

original score for “Schindler’s List” at the 66th show held in 1994. He earned his 51st Oscar nomination this year for scoring “Star Wars: The Last Jedi.”

The 86-year-old has received the Kennedy Center Honors

and the National Medal of Arts. He has won multiple Grammys and Emmys.

Composers Laura Karpman, Miriam Cutler, Lolita Ritmanis and Rick Baitz will also be honored at the event.

Gwen Stefani to kick off Las Vegas residency in June

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Gwen Stefani is the latest superstar to ink a deal for a series of regularly scheduled shows in Las Vegas.

Caesars Entertainment on Tuesday announced Stefani will kick off a residency at the Planet

Hollywood casino-resort in June.

The hollaback girl in a statement says having a show in Las Vegas is “an incredible honor.” She says growing up in Anaheim, California, she could never have imagined one day

having her own residency.

Caesars says Stefani’s show will celebrate the breadth of her musical career.

Stefani released her first holiday album last fall. “You Make It Feel Like Christmas”

debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard Holiday Album chart.

Tickets go on sale Friday. Shows at the casino-resort’s Zappos Theater are scheduled for June, July, December, February and March.

Actor T.J. Miller charged with making bomb report on train

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — Actor T.J. Miller called 911 to falsely claim that a woman he got into an argument with over loud cellphone conversations on a train had a bomb in her luggage, federal prosecutors said Tuesday.

The former “Silicon Valley” actor was arrested Monday at LaGuardia Airport in New York and released on \$100,000 bond after an initial appearance in federal court in New Haven, Connecticut, on Tuesday.

The federal public defender who represented Miller did not immediately return a call for comment. A message left with a representative was not immediately returned and the voicemail box for Miller’s cellphone was full and could not accept messages.

Miller called in the false bomb information on March 18 after getting into what an Am-

trak worker called a “screaming match” with a woman on a train traveling from Washington to New York, according to prosecutors.

Prosecutors said he at first gave the wrong train number and investigators found no explosives after stopping and evacuating passengers from a train in Westport, Connecticut.

Investigators called Miller back and he said the woman kept checking her bag without taking anything out and seemed to want to get off the train and leave her bag behind.

“I am worried for everyone on that train,” investigators said Miller told police. “Someone has to check that lady out.”

They stopped and removed passengers from the correct train and also didn’t find explosives.



MASSIVE STROKE

In this Aug. 31, 2013, file photo, the “Man” burns on the Black Rock Desert at Burning Man near Gerlach, Nev. Burning Man founder Larry Harvey remains hospitalized in critical condition after suffering a stroke. The Burning Man organization on Monday, April 9, 2018, said Harvey suffered a massive stroke on April 4. His prognosis is unknown, but the group says he is “receiving excellent round-the-clock medical care.”

AP

Teen is struggling to rebuild connection to alcoholic mom

DEAR ABBY: My mom is a recovering alcoholic. Her alcoholism has caused emotional distress and damaged our relationship to the point that I am aloof and terse toward her.

She's six months sober now, receiving help and making an effort to repair the hurt and pain she has caused. But I'm struggling in moving forward.

My mom is generous, kind, loving, and has always been supportive. I feel guilty for the ambivalent part of me that could care less about fixing the issues SHE caused in our relationship. It saddens both of us that I have a hard time being kind and loving toward her. Any advice?

STUBBORN TEEN IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR TEEN: Alcoholism is a disease that affects not only the drinker, but also those close to her (or him). That your mother is receiving help and working to remain sober means she is trying as hard as she can to get better and remain that way.

Forgiveness isn't automatic. It is a conscious choice on the part of the injured party. To think you are alone in this situation would be a mistake. There's a support group for younger family members of alcoholics called Alateen. If you attend some of the meetings, it may help you to be kinder and more loving toward your mother. Alateen groups are everywhere. To find one visit al-anon.org.

DEAR ABBY: Recently I was late to work because I slept in

and my boss was upset about it. But the thing is -- it's really none of his business, is it? What I do on my own time isn't the business of my employer. I don't ask him what he does when he isn't here.

This has happened a few times and I know it might present a problem, but I don't think it's his place to tell me what to do outside of work. How is that legal?

I need the extra sleep in the mornings because I like to stay out late at night, which is my right as an American. If I need extra sleep in order to perform my job at a higher level, then isn't it better for the company that I sleep in? I'm hearing blame when I should be hearing thank you.

MY BUSINESS IN INDIANA

DEAR MY BUSINESS: Forgive me if this seems harsh, but your boss's business IS his business. Businesses have regular hours of operation, which are usually stated in the employee handbook you should have read when you were being hired. It's the duty of an employee to show up on time AND in condition to perform his/her job.

I'm not surprised your boss is upset. It's a natural response when an employee who's relied upon acts irresponsibly, which is what you have been doing. Because you prioritize your social life above your work life, consider looking for a job that starts later or has flexible hours. You may need it.

DEAR ABBY: What is the purpose of high school graduation announcements? To whom should they be sent, and what

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



are the expectations surrounding them?

My son is graduating, so we are preparing announcements, but I'm not sure who to send them to, and I don't want anyone to think we are asking for a gift. We have received several announcements from my son's friends who live out of state. Should I send them gifts?

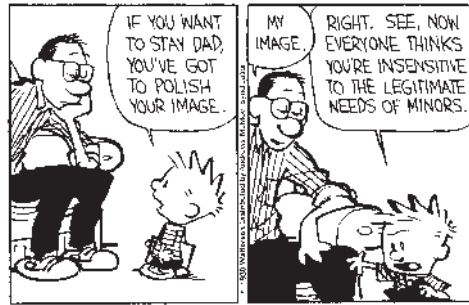
WANTS TO GET IT RIGHT

DEAR WANTS: Graduation announcements are usually sent to close family and friends. Recipients are under no obligation to send a gift. Your congratulations should be enough.

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

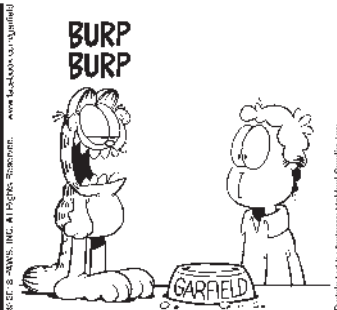
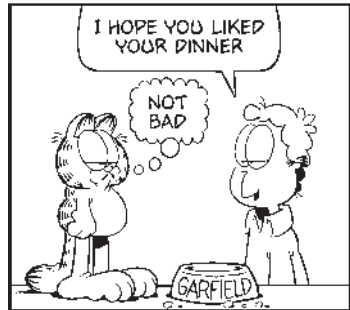
Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

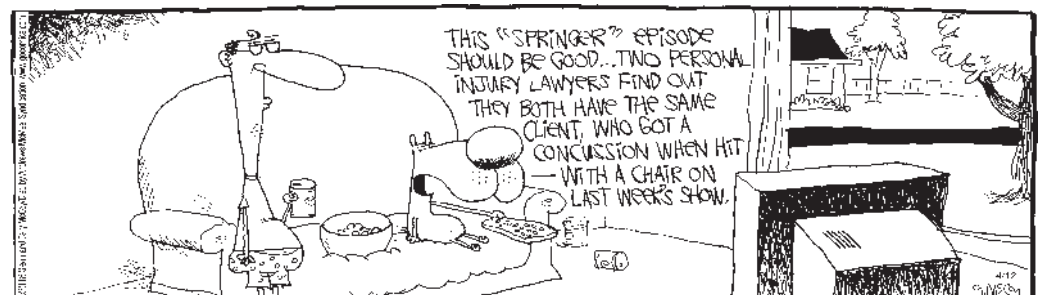
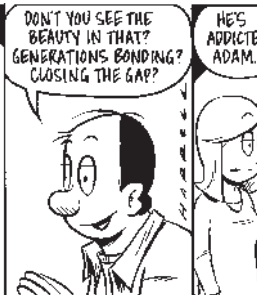


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Chowder morsel
5 Praise in verse
8 Belgrade resident
12 Hold sway
13 Schlep
14 "May It Be" singer
15 Actor Rickman
16 Gerund ending
17 Read quickly
18 Composer Mahler
20 Aches (for)
22 Copper head?
23 I love (Lat.)
24 Baby horse
27 Community program
32 Lob's path
33 Presidential nickname
34 Greek X
35 Trojan War hero

DOWN

38 Throat clearer
39 Chemical suffix
40 Sample
42 Refines, as ore
45 Moved unsteadily
49 DVR brand
50 Ostrich's kin
52 Saab model
53 Mountain hgt.
54 Raggedy doll
55 Meditative practice
56 Existed
57 Part of UCLA

38 Son of Seth
11 Pro-scribes
19 Blood type
21 Hearing thing
24 Air safety org.
25 Tolkien creature
26 Go-getter
28 Luau instrument
29 Experimental trials
30 "Evita" narrator
31 That Bagel guy
36 Moon-struck
37 Allow
38 Sailor's assent
41 Concerning
42 Leftovers recipe
43 Marathon fraction
44 Barking mammal
46 Boxer Spinks
47 Thus
48 "— you're told!"
51 6 on a phone

Solution time: 24 mins.

C	L	A	D	W	E	B	U	F	O	S
A	I	D	E	O	R	O	S	L	O	P
S	L	I	P	P	E	R	H	A	Z	E
S	I	N	U	S	D	I	E	T	E	D
R	O	S	I	N	A	N	E	P	A	
S	U	N	D	E	E	M	S	R	A	G
T	I	O	F	A	M	P	Y	R	F	
B	A	A	D	O	E	R				
B	A	B	3	L	E	L	I	B	E	L
I	S	E	E	S	H	I	M	M	E	R
D	I	R	T	P	E	R	P	A	L	E
S	A	Y	S	Y	E	S				

Yesterday's answer 4-12

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Saoirse Ronan, 24; Claire Danes, 39; David Letterman, 71; Ed O'Neill, 72.

Happy Birthday: Keep secrets. Gossiping or meddling of any kind will come back to haunt you. Run a tight ship and keep a clean slate in all your dealings to avoid being put in a precarious position. Think matters through to the end before you take action. Focus on personal growth and being the best you can be. Your numbers are 8, 15, 22, 29, 34, 43, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Your actions will count. Follow through with your promises. Do your best to keep the peace and to avoid making assumptions without having all the facts. Observation will help you avoid mistakes and encourage greater insight into emotional situations. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Explore new interests or bring an old dream or pastime back to life. Engage in creative endeavors that give you the freedom to push your skills and talents to the limit. Love and romance are highlighted and short trips encouraged. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A steady pace and being honest about what you can accomplish will help you reach the goals you set. Don't feel you have to put someone else's needs before your own. Good fortune will come from doing what's best for you. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can solve any differences you have with someone if you are patient and willing to listen to complaints as well as suggestions. Working with

instead of against someone will lead to common ground. Romance is encouraged. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take a good look around you and consider what you can do to make your life more comfortable. Personal changes to your living quarters or a physical update to the way you look will lift your spirits. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Concentrate on doing something creative or unique compared to anything you have experienced in the past. Short trips in pursuit of information that can help divert you from stressful situations will result in peace of mind and an unexpected solution. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Look for alternative ways to get the most out of your life. Save more, indulge less and concentrate on maintaining good health through proper diet and exercise. You are only as good as the rules, habits and goals you set moving forward. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Share your intentions, and you will find out exactly where you stand and what you need to do in order to reach your goal. If you don't ask for what you want, you will stifle your ability to bring about positive change. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emotional manipulation on your part or on the part of someone else will lead to disaster. Dismiss anyone who gives you an ultimatum or is offering information that doesn't sound legitimate. Look inward for truth and solutions. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look for new opportunities that will give you the chance to use your skills in a unique and interesting manner. A change in the way you earn your living, to your popularity or to your reputation is apparent. Romance is highlighted. ★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll be tempted to make changes to your current direction or friendships with people you've known a long time. Reverting back to old habits will not turn out to be as progressive as you hoped and will lead to challenges you didn't expect. ★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Let your emotions out, and share your thoughts, feelings and intentions. You can make headway if you are honest about what you want. Personal changes will lead to greater opportunity and self-satisfaction. Romance is in the stars. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, spontaneous and original. You are caring and cautious.

(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

				7				3
		7					8	5
				3	2			
1	2						4	
	8	9	1	4	7			
5					6	9		
		9	1					
2	7					9		
8			6					

Difficulty Level ★★

4/12

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

7	4	1	2	5	8	6	3	9
8	5	2	3	9	6	7	4	1
9	6	3	1	7	4	8	5	2
1	9	7	4	8	2	5	6	3
3	2	4	7	6	5	9	1	8
6	8	5	9	1	3	4	2	7
5	1	8	6	2	9	3	7	4
4	7	6	8	3	1	2	9	5
2	3	9	5	4	7	1	8	6

Difficulty Level ★★

11

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

BABY TALK

Solution: 6 letters

E E L A U G H G H C T I P H C
L T E N A N N Y M R E R A C O
B A A B O O B O O Y A L P E D
B T R C S V T H L I M H I E N
A I N G I H S I S H O O A P A
B M N S E N M E T N E P R S S
O I U R A A U Y E R A N E I S
S A E M F R H M B P O A T N I
L S E C O R E M M G A D F V L
E E R U N A I D R O W U O D G
L G W E D T D A E O C L S A A
P R A O P E J N E R U T S E G
M O G G V E O M O M A M A R A
I W S Y N T A X E B Y E B Y E
S M I L E E E T A C I L P U D

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4/12

Adult, Babble, Bond, Booboo, Bye-Bye, Care, Communicate, Cue, Duplicate, Engage, Family, Fond, Gaga, Gesture, Glissando, Grow, Imitate, Jargon, Laugh, Learn, Lips, Mama, Meow, Motherese, Name, Nanny, Narrate, Papa, Pause, Phoneme, Pitch, Praise, Read, Repeat, Rhythm, Short, Simple, Sing-song, Smile, Softer, Speech, Syntax, Timbre, Tone, Visual, Volume, Vowel, Word

Yesterday's Answer: Flank

To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Roma stuns Barcelona in Champions League

ROME (AP)—With his arms held out wide and his mouth gaping open, Kostas Manolas started running and yelling uncontrollably. Then he patted his chest and was mobbed by his Roma teammates.

Manolas, a center back known more for his defensive skills than his attacking abilities, had just scored one of the most memorable goals in Roma's history.

His header from a corner in the 82nd minute Tuesday put Roma into the Champions League semifinals and knocked out five-time champion Barcelona following one of the most extraordinary comebacks the competition has ever seen.

Roma won 3-0 to overturn a three-goal deficit and advance on away goals, having entered the game as massive underdogs after losing the first leg of their quarterfinal 4-1 against a Lionel Messi-led team that was one of the big favorites to win the competition.

"I don't care about becoming part of Roma's history. I'm just happy that the squad has reached the Champions League semifinals by beating a great team like Barcelona," Manolas said. "In the first leg they denied us two penalties but tonight we showed that Roma can play with and beat anyone."

The atmosphere inside the Stadio Olimpico was deafening as Roma unexpectedly



AP
Barcelona goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen, left, saves as Roma's Stephan El Shaarawi, center, tries to score, against Barcelona's Nelson Semedo, right, during the Champions League quarterfinal second leg soccer match between Roma and FC Barcelona, at Rome's Olympic Stadium, Tuesday, April 10, 2018.

dominated.

Roma coach Eusebio Di Francesco acknowledged before the match that his team needed a "miracle" to advance, and they got the start they needed when when Edin Dzeko controlled an over-the-top pass between two defenders after six minutes and poked in his sixth goal in this season's competition.

Then near the hour mark, Dzeko earned a penalty that Daniele De Rossi converted to set the stage for Manolas' late header.

"It is for moments like this that it is so beautiful to live

for these colors," recently retired Roma captain Francesco Totti tweeted, adding "Daje Roma!" —"Go Roma" in Roman dialect—followed by two heart emojis in yellow and red.

Messi and fellow Barcelona forward Luis Suarez hardly threatened as Roma dominated possession for long stretches and stifled the Catalan club with high pressure.

Roma capitalized on its aerial threat through Dzeko and Patrik Schick and its stifling defense forced Barcelona into

a series of uncharacteristic misplaced passes.

"They showed attitude and for whatever reason we didn't know how to respond, or to make chances," Barcelona midfielder Sergio Busquets said. "For that reason they were better in all aspects tonight."

It's the first time that Roma has reached the last four since it lost the 1984 final to Liverpool on penalties in its own stadium -- and it's the third straight year that Barcelona has been eliminated

at this stage.

"It's a possibility that this might be my last game in the Champions League but right now this is hard for all the team, all of us," Barcelona captain Andrea Iniesta said after setting a record with his 22nd match in the quarterfinals. "We so wanted to win this tournament but we've failed to do so again."

"It's really tough. It seems untrue. Very hard to accept. With the advantage we had we went out because we really did things badly. The Champions League punishes you for that." Liverpool also reached the



BOSTON (AP)—Mookie Betts hit a grand slam on a monster night, leading Chris Sale and the Boston Red Sox over the New York Yankees 14-1 Tuesday for their ninth straight victory.

Betts went 4 for 4, scoring five runs and driving in four. His third career slam capped a nine-run burst in the sixth inning that turned the first match-up of the season between the AL East rivals into a rout.

Sale (1-0) allowed one run in six innings, striking out eight. Luis Severino (2-1) gave up five runs in five innings.

Aaron Judge had three hits for the Yankees, including his third home run of the season.

Yankees slugger Giancarlo Stanton went 2 for 4. He struck out his first two times up against Sale, and has now fanned 22 times in 46 at-bats.

Giants 5, Diamondbacks 4

In San Francisco, Andrew McCutchen hit a bases-loaded single for his second walk-off of San Francisco's homestand.

McCutchen lined the first pitch he got from Jorge De La Rosa (0-1) for a clean single into left-center, his 10th career

Red Sox rout Yankees for 9th win in row

game-ending hit. His previous walk-off was just last Saturday, when he hit a three-run homer to sink the Los Angeles Dodgers in the 14th inning.

Blue Jays 2, Orioles 1

In Baltimore, Aaron Sanchez lost his no-hit bid when Baltimore's Tim Beckham led off the eighth inning with a sharp grounder through the legs of third baseman Josh Donaldson, and Curtis Granderson hit a tiebreaking homer in the ninth to carry Toronto.

Seeking to throw the second no-hitter in Blue Jays history—Dave Stieb did it in 1990—Sanchez (1-1) gave up three hits in the eighth.

Mets 8, Marlins 6

In Miami, Yoenis Cespedes snapped a slump with a two-run double to break a tie in the ninth inning, giving New York the best 10-game start in franchise history.

The Mets (9-1) earned their seventh consecutive victory, their longest winning streak in two years. Asdrubal Cabrera hit a pair of solo homers for New York, which blew a

three-run lead and then came from behind.

Cardinals 5, Brewers 3, 11 innings

In St. Louis, Matt Carpenter hit a two-run home run with no outs in the 11th inning to lift St. Louis.

Carpenter turned around a pitch from J.J. Hoover (0-1) for the third game-ending homer of his career. It capped a night in which St. Louis rallied from one-run deficits in the ninth and 10th innings.

Pirates 8, Cubs 5

In Chicago, Ivan Nova pitched seven solid innings, Francisco Cervelli hit a three-run homer and Pittsburgh ruined Chicago's home opener.

Not even the presence of Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt, the 98-year-old chaplain of the Loyola basketball team, could help the Cubs. She threw out a ceremonial first pitch at Wrigley Field.

Dodgers 4, Athletics 0

In Los Angeles, Hyun-Jin Ryu cruised through six innings of one-hit ball and Corey Seager hit

one of three Dodgers homers.

Ryu (1-0) rebounded from a rocky season debut to shut down Oakland. He struck out eight and walked one, handing off to the bullpen after just 90 pitches. Ryu also walked and singled in two plate appearances.

Nationals 4, Braves 1

In Washington, Stephen Strasburg threw eight scoreless innings and Ryan Zimmerman had a two-run triple for Washington.

Strasburg (2-1) allowed three hits and two walks while striking out eight, at one point retiring 12 in a row. He didn't allow a runner past second base.

Indians 2, Tigers 1

In Cleveland, Roberto Perez hit a leadoff home run in the eighth inning against reliever Alex Wilson, lifting Cleveland over Detroit.

The Indians beat the Tigers for the ninth straight time.

Andrew Miller (1-0) pitched a scoreless eighth. Cody Allen worked the ninth for his third save.

Angels 11, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Mike Trout and

Twins 4, Astros 1

In Minneapolis, Jake Odorizzi grinded through six innings for his first win with Minnesota, and leadoff man Brian Dozier walked a career-high four times.

Odorizzi (1-0) struggled with control on another cold night in Minnesota but eventually settled in during his first home start since being acquired from Tampa Bay in February. He allowed a run on five walks and five hits.

Mariners 8, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Felix Hernandez pitched into the sixth inning, Guillermo Heredia homered and Seattle bounced back from a blowout loss to rout Kansas City.

Hernandez (2-1), who was shelled his last time out in San Francisco, allowed three runs, six hits and a walk in 5 2/3 innings.

Rays 6, White Sox 5

In Chicago, Blake Snell pitched one-hit ball and struck out 10 through six innings and Tampa Bay kept Chicago winless at home this season.

The White Sox dropped to 0-5 at Guaranteed Rate Field. They have never lost their first six at home in franchise history dating to 1901.

Nuggets, T-Wolves duel for last playoff berth



MIAMI (AP)—The end has arrived.

Actually, for Atlanta, Phoenix, Dallas and Charlotte, the end came in their season finales Tuesday. There are nine teams who know Wednesday is the last day of their season. Another 15 teams have already clinched playoff berths.

Then there's Minnesota and Denver.

Game 82 for both teams will have a Game 7 feel, which is a fitting way to transition from the regular season to the post-season. Nuggets at Timberwolves, winner to the playoffs, loser to the offseason. It's the first time since 1997—and only the third time since the NBA went to this postseason format in 1983 — that two teams will play on the season's final day in such a situation.

"It's bigger than all of us," Minnesota star Karl-Anthony Towns said.

Minnesota is trying to get into the playoffs for the first time since 2004—the longest current drought in the NBA. Denver—winner of six straight to give itself this chance—is trying to get to the postseason for the first time since 2013.

So there's only one spot left in the 16-team tournament that will decide whose fingerprints get to put the smudge of a championship celebration on the Larry O'Brien Trophy in June.

Much like the race between Minnesota and Denver, the entire tournament bracket itself is going down to the wire. There will be eight first-round matchups, and every single one of those pairings will be decided on Wednesday. So, too, will 11 of the 16 seeds. Portland and Utah will play for the No. 3 seed in the West, in one of the few cut-and-dry matchups.

The only order of business that was cleared up Tuesday was the No. 2 overall seed, with Toronto now assured of finishing with the NBA's second-best record.

76ers 121, Hawks 113

In Atlanta, JJ Redick scored 28 points and the surging Philadelphia 76ers set a franchise record with their 15th consecutive victory, holding off the Atlanta Hawks to move a step closer to locking up the No. 3 seed in the Eastern Conference.

The 76ers overcame a tough outing for rookie star Ben Simmons, who missed the morning shootaround after coming down with the stomach flu. He still managed to put up 14 points, 10 rebounds and six assists before fouling out with 7 seconds remaining.

His teammates helped pick



up the slack. Redick hit 6 of 9 from beyond the 3-point arc, while former Atlanta players Ersan Ilyasova and Marco Belinelli burned their old team. Ilyasova scored 26 points, Belinelli added 20 and the duo combined for nine 3-pointers.

Jazz 119, Warriors 79

In Salt Lake City, Donovan Mitchell scored 22 points and set an NBA rookie record for 3-pointers, Derrick Favors added 16 points and nine rebounds, and Utah cruised to a victory over Golden State.

Jonas Jerebko scored 14 points, and Rudy Gobert and Ricky Rubio added 13 points apiece for the Jazz. Utah (48-33) won its sixth straight game and went 3-1 in the season series with Golden State. The Jazz can claim the No. 3 seed in the Western Conference with a win over Portland on Wednesday night.

Even with a loss to the Blazers, Utah is assured of falling no lower than the No. 5 seed.

Klay Thompson scored 23 points and Kevin Durant added 13 for the Warriors, who finished the season at 58-24. Golden State, the No. 2 seed in the West, never led in the game.

Wizards 113, Celtics 101

In Washington, John Wall surpassed 5,000 career assists and Washington beat Boston despite Jaylen Brown's 21 first-quarter points to remain

in play for the No. 6, No. 7 or No. 8 seed in the Eastern Conference.

For now, the Wizards are eighth in the East, and potentially more worrisome is this: Starting small forward Otto Porter Jr. left at halftime with a right lower leg strain and did not return.

Wall finished with 29 points and 12 assists as Washington ended its four-game losing streak. The Wizards will wrap up the regular season at Orlando on Wednesday.

Rockets 105, Lakers 99

In Los Angeles, Chris Paul scored 22 points, James Harden had 21 points and 10 assists, and Houston kept steamrolling toward the playoffs with its 31st victory in 34 games.

Gerald Green scored 16 points as Houston hung on late to avoid its first back-to-back losses since Jan. 6. But in the first half, the Rockets lost backup forward Luc Mbah a Moute to a dislocated right shoulder in a meaningless game.

Andre Ingram scored 19 points with four 3-pointers for the Lakers in the 32-year-old guard's impressive NBA debut. Los Angeles promoted the 10-year G League veteran from its South Bay affiliate for the final two games of the regular season, and the developmental league's career leader in 3-pointers hit a 3 on his first NBA shot.

Hornets 119, Pacers 93

In Indianapolis, Dwight Howard finished with 14 points and 17 rebounds, and Frank

Minnesota Timberwolves forward Andrew Wiggins, center, loses control of the ball as he drives the lane between Denver Nuggets forwards Paul Millsap, left, and Wilson Chandler during the first half of an NBA basketball game Thursday, April 5, 2018, in Denver.

Kaminsky tied his career high with 24 points to lead Charlotte past Indiana.

Charlotte ended the season with two wins in its last seven games.

The Pacers, who are locked into the No. 5 seed in the Eastern Conference, lost for the second time in three games with three starters sitting out. Darren Collison, T.J. Leaf and Glenn Robinson III all scored 13 points for Indiana.

Suns 124, Mavericks 97

In Dallas, rookie Alec Peters scored a career-high 36 points and Phoenix beat Dallas in a reserve-filled finale for two teams headed to the lottery.

The Mavericks (24-58) entered the game tied for the third-worst record in the NBA and stayed that way while sitting eight players. That included star Dirk Nowitzki, whose 20th season ended last week when he had ankle surgery.

Atlanta finished with the same record after losing at home to Philadelphia 121-113. Orlando can join the Mavericks and Hawks with a loss at home to Washington on Wednesday.

Phoenix (21-61), which had already clinched the worst record and best lottery odds for the No. 1 pick in the draft in June, also didn't dress eight players.

Kansas, NC State newly mentioned in NCAA hoops case

NEW YORK (AP)—Kansas and North Carolina State are the latest schools to be swept up in a bribery scandal involving college basketball.

A rewritten indictment released Tuesday in New York alleges that an Adidas representative, who no longer works for the company, arranged for payments to parents of athletes willing to commit to the schools.

The refreshed indictment came several months after 10 men were charged in an alleged scheme to bribe assistant coaches in exchange for steering top-flight NBA prospects to a particular agent or financial adviser. Four assistant coaches have been prosecuted and the scandal has led to the end of coach Rick Pitino's career at the University of Louisville. The new indict-

ment expands the scope of the charges, alleging a wire-fraud conspiracy that included alleged payments to families of six student-athletes being recruited by four schools, prosecutors said.

The court papers portrayed the shoe executive and some coaches as bad actors, saying the conspiracy included hiding payments and signing forms falsely asserting that no payments had been made. The indictment paints a picture of transactions that were concealed to allow athletes to make it through eligibility reviews.

Prosecutors said the Adidas representative, James Gatto, and others agreed to pay \$90,000 to the mother of a Kansas recruit and to funnel

\$40,000 to the father of a recruit at North Carolina State who was widely regarded as the top high school recruit in the state of North Carolina and who had played for an Adidas-sponsored Amateur Athletic Union team. No players are directly named, but specific details make clear the indictment is describing former North Carolina State star Dennis Smith Jr. and Kansas player Silvio De Sousa.

Prosecutors say money helped secure the players' commitments to play college basketball at the schools and encouraged them to sign an Adidas sponsorship deal when they entered the NBA.

Smith, a point guard, was drafted by the Mavericks and declined comment to The As-

sociated Press on Tuesday night as Dallas played the Phoenix Suns.

A date listed in court papers for the announcement—Aug. 30—is when De Sousa made a surprise announcement he would play for Kansas. He became a crucial player off the bench this season as the Jayhawks reached the Final Four before losing to eventual champion Villanova.

Prosecutors said they beefed up charges related to the Louisville conspiracy, adding a wire fraud charge. Louisville declined comment.

N.C. State received a grand jury subpoena in January seeking records involving school officials, its former coaching staff, ex-Wolfspack one-and-done guard Dennis Smith Jr. and his representatives.



Amari's Nakayoshi zeroes in on Masters crown

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

The Amari's Nakayoshi is likely to take the Masters crown in the Saipan Electronic Darts Association-Bud Light League 2018.

With its 82-54 record, the Amari's Nakayoshi is enjoying a wide margin in the four-team field, ahead of the 64-72 of the Pythons, and Mafia and 151 Proofers, who hold similar 63-73 slates. The Nakayoshi, if it wins the division title, would beat all squads backed by 6JMS—Pythons, Mafia, and 151 Proofers.

The Amari's Tavern-supported players further distanced themselves from their opponents after completing a 13-4 demolition of the 151 Proofers.

Jason John swept all his games to lead Nakayoshi's easy win over the Proofers.

In other results in the Masters, the Mafia defeated sister team Pythons, 10-7, while two of the five matches in the A Division were decided by a point.

Ridin'Dartty edged Mafia,



Players of the 6JMS Bulldogs pose for a photo after an easy win against the Jonny's Werpa in the C Division of the SEDA-Bud Light League last week.

9-8, while 101 Proofers outclassed the Gunners in similar scores. In other games in the division, Roil Soil downed the Terminators, 11-6, while the Warriors duplicated the former's feat in their duel versus the Predators, and the Strikers defeated the Scorpions, 10-7.

while Ian Kurt Maniago and Andrew Sablan added one goal each in the 11th and 38th, respectively.

Mark Joseph Roque made the pair of goals of TanHoldings-1 with his first coming in the 31st minute and the second a minute later.

In the MP United-Kanoa-2 duel, the former rode on the shoulders of Dev Bachani to beat the latter. Bachani recorded five goals for MPU, which got three from Andrew Chung, two from Evan Mendiola, and one from Richard Castro.

In other results in the co-ed U13, Matansa notched its fourth win in seven games after shutting down TanHoldings-2, 5-0,

OTHER RESULTS Tuesday B

■ Chambers 10, Thunder 5
■ Mafia 8, D'Strikers 7

C Division

■ Bulldogs 14, Werpa 1
■ River Shots 10, Like A

Alex Megino led the easy win after making a hat trick, while Pia Ngewakl and Chanyang Woo chipped in one each.

BOYS U18 TanHoldings 7, Kanoa 0

TanHoldings blanked Kanoa in the second game to remain undefeated this season.

TanHoldings now has a 4-1-0 slate—the same mark MP United holds, but the former is slightly ahead in the goal difference, 26-24.

Jonathan Capayas bagged three goals, while Mark Sablan contributed two, and Mareko Tekopua and John Michael Rojas tallied one each in TanHoldings' lopsided win.

Aces' run when he struck out Lamar Iguel.

Kapileo, after GSM's offense faltered at the top of the eighth, had a much easier time at the bottom half when he consecutively retired Nokki Saralu and Ben Taiscan before forcing Barry Sunumai to ground out on a 6-3 play.

GSM again did not score at the top of the ninth, leaving Kapileo with the pressure to seal the deal for the Mark Boyer Sablan-sponsored squad. But he nearly blew up their chances of withstanding the Aces' rally after struggling on the mound early in the last inning. He gave up a triple to leadoff batter Falig, who eventually scored on a Luis Iguel hit to move the Aces

G4 5

■ Bulls Hitters 9, Re-Darts 6
■ Darts Minded 9, Re-Darts
■ Wettside 9, Bull It 6

Fanihi B

■ 80 Proofers 11, Pung-Pang 4

Capayas had back-to-back goals, making them in the 27th and 28th minute, while his last came in the 74th.

MP United 8, NDT 0

MP United also earned a shut-out win against the National Developmental Team to stay in the hunt for the division championship.

Rintaro Miyawaki powered MP United to the easy victory after drilling four goals. He opened the scoring for MP United in the second minute, got his second in the 20th, and the last two in the 59th and 60th. Jonathan Lim added a brace, while Joshua Abragan and Sunjoon Tenorio posted one apiece.

within 5, 7-12. Iguel then advanced to third on consecutive GSM errors, while Omar was hit by a Kapileo pitch to put runners at the corner.

Jesus Iguel grounded out to second on a 4-3 play for the first out, but in the process gave Luis Iguel the run to make it 8-12. Jones doubled for the second time to keep the Aces' hopes alive, but Kapileo cut short their celebration after forcing Lamar Iguel to an infield fly, while Saralu grounded out to GSM shortstop Sebaklim to end the game.

Sebaklim had two doubles and two runs on a 2-for-5 batting for GSM, while Delos Santos, who struck out in the first, went 1-for-4 with one run and two RBIs.

■ Bandits 11, Drunken Warriors 4
■ Mafia 11, Shaka 4

Flame Tree B

■ Ridin'Dartty 15, Jump It 0

■ Drillers 12, Dartaholics 3
■ Kyodai 11, Creepers 4
■ Na'Gupu 11, Serial Killaz 4

■ Board Members 8, Real Deal 7

Micro Games volleyball tryouts

Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association is calling all interested players to attend a two-day tryout for the CNMI national teams that will be playing in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap.

The tryouts, for both men's and women's, will take place on April 14 and 15 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium from 4pm to 7pm. Players must be 16 years old or older to attend the week-end tryouts.

From the pool, NMIVA will make the initial selection (Top 20 per each squad) before choosing the final roster (10 each). NMIVA have until May 1 (Northern Mari-



anas Sports Association deadline) to name the members of the CNMI men's and women's national volleyball teams.

Selected volleyball players will join the basketball, indoor volleyball, spearfishing, athletics, weightlifting, and baseball squads on Team Marianas in the 9th Micronesian Games that will be held from July 15 to 27.

For more information about the tryouts, contact Mychal Omar at 287-6892 or send email to Mychal.omar@gmail.com; Shawn Davis at shawnd62@hotmail.com/483-95-95; Ryan Camacho at 788-6967; and Alfredo Guevarra at 783-4494. (PR)

FIELDERS

From Page 28

Ignacio Mendiola and Henry Fleming, who scored the Fielders' other runs, shared pitching duties and limited the Falcons to three hits with two earned runs. They combined for eight strikeouts and five walks.

Isiah Teigita, Joel Norita, and Pedro Maratita scored for the Falcons.

Braves 4, Comets 0

The Braves' pitching duo of Sean Rabauliman and Leveque Iguel limited the Comets to four hits in completing the shutout win. They also combined for eight strikeouts and two walks. Iguel scored two runs for the Braves.

The win erased the sting of the Braves' 0-2 loss to the Falcons on March 31.

Vicente Camacho scored twice for the Braves. He doubled in the first inning and scored on a Rabauliman RBI single and also reached home in the third on a throwing error by Comets third baseman Apple Tyquenco.

BATANG

From Page 27

canto, while Teregeyo had 7 of his 13 markers in that period.

In the IT&E-RNV game, the former pulled off a comeback win after firing 30 points in the fourth canto.

The final frame started with IT&E facing a 46-54 deficit. IT&E then mounted a comeback when Ivan Devero, Brendon Talaria, Nate Mateo, James Dela Cruz, and

MAJORS DIVISION Bank of Saipan 8, Cubs 4

Jesse Stole went 2-for-4, including a two-RBI single, in Bank of Saipan's five-run second inning to help his team get its second win in five games.

Ezra Ada scored a run and had an RBI, while Demarlane Santos went 2-for-2 with one run.

Jesse Tydingco tossed 2 1/2 innings, surrendering four hits and recording six strikeouts and no walks. Greg Perez pitched the last 3 1/2, limiting the Cubs to two hits, fanning three, and walking one.

McDonald's 11, Braves 5

Dylan Santos pitched 3.2 innings in relief, retiring six batters and walking two. He was tagged with one unearned run after Jylon Sablan scored on a passed ball.

The Braves committed 11 errors in the loss.

Terrence Leung joined forces in the fourth period. Devero scored 10 of his 28 points in the finale, Mateo added 6, Talaria made 5, and Dela Cruz and Leung chipped in 4 each.

RVN, which led by 21 at the break, 47-26, collapsed, as it had no player hitting more than one field goal in each of the last two quarters. Ronald Rueda had 25 points for RVN, but was limited to 4 points and one field goal in the entire second half.

TIGHT

From Page 28

Kanoa-1. MP United, with its 13-0 triumph over Kanoa-2, is breathing down TanHoldings-1's neck, as the former now holds a 5-1-1 mark. Three playing weekends are left (including this Saturday's matches) in the double-round robin competition and results of the remaining games will determine TanHoldings-1, MP United, and Kanoa-1's chances for the division championship.

Leland Deleon Guerrero lifted Kanoa-1 to the upset over TanHoldings-1 after delivering a brace. He scored in the 23rd and 52nd minute,

GSM

From Page 28

must-win situation versus last year's losing finalists Falcons (5-2) on April 18. The twin victories will allow the Bears to force a playoff for the pennant against GSM. The Falcons, on the other hand, will have a lighter assignment in the Indians (0-6) tomorrow before colliding with the Bears next week.

The GSM-Aces game was played for almost four hours due to intermittent rain with the final one lasting for more than five minutes and nearly making the field unplayable. The match resumed after officials made sure the field is still safe.

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics will be holding a series of qualifying events for the CNMI team that will see action in two regional competitions this year.

NMA is preparing for the 2018 Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships set on Saipan from June 14 to 16 at the Oleai Sports Complex and the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap from July 15 to 27.

The qualifiers will start on April 30 from 4pm to 6:30pm at the Oleai track oval. They will continue on May 19 from 1pm up to the time when there's still sunlight, while the last two qualifiers are scheduled on June 1 and 2 and will run from 4pm to 7pm and 2pm to 6pm, respectively.

NMA official Elias Rangamar said the qualifying event is open to anyone even to high school students or under 18 athletes who will be joining next week's All Schools qualifiers.

"Either they are training by themselves or have been

CNMI athletics team qualifiers set



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Orrin Pharmin, second left, competes in the 110m hurdles during the 8th Micronesian Game in Pohnpei in 2014. Northern Marianas Athletics will hold a series of qualifiers for both the 9th Micronesian Games and Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships, starting on April 30.

training with us for quite some time, anybody can join. This is an open event and we have qualifying standards to base their performances," Rangamar told *Saipan Tribune*.

"Once they qualified or became a member of the CNMI team, they need to join our training," he added.

Rangamar said the standards set are based on the

results of the previous Micro Games, four years ago in Pali-kir, Pohnpei.

"The standards are in no way meant to exclude athletes; they are a genuine attempt to

ensure that athletes who are capable of competing for the Games and deserving of slots on the team are selected," the NMA official said.

The men's open qualify-

ing standards are 11.30 seconds (100 meter run), 23.00 seconds (200m run), 53 seconds (400m run), 2:12.00 (800m run); 4:45.00 (1,500m run), 19:00.00 (5,000m run), 40:00.0 (10,000m run), 1:25:00 (half marathon), 19.00 seconds (110m hurdles), 1:05.00 (400m hurdles), 1.60 meters (high jump), 5.6m (long jump), 11m (triple jump), 35m (discus), 11m (shot put), 22m (hammer throw), 45m (javelin), and 3,500 points (octathlon).

The women's open qualifying standards are 13.70 seconds (100 meter run), 28.00 seconds (200m run), 1:07.00 (400m run), 2:45.00 (800m run); 5:45.00 (1,500m run), 24:00.00 (5,000m run), 56:00.0 (10,000m run), 1:42:00 (half marathon), 20 seconds (100m hurdles), 1:20.00 (400m hurdles), 1.30 meters (high jump), 4.4m (long jump), 8.5m (triple jump), 26m (discus), 9.5m (shot put), 20m (hammer throw), 30m (javelin), and 3,200 points (heptathlon).

For more information about the trials, call Rangamar at 234-6672.

Junior tennis tournament draws out

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

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REPORTER

The draws in the different age group competitions in the 2018 CNMI National Junior Tennis Championships are out with games to start this Saturday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

In the boys U14 singles, the field has a 13-player draw with Richard Steele and Daniel Kang getting the Top 2 seeds and drawing byes in the first round. Andy Kim and Isaac Heo are the other seeded players in the division, while Danny Lee, Anthony Gregoire, Joey Hong, Seung Won Lee,

Andrew Chun, Brandon Lee, Hyunmin Cho, and Jae Hoon Son complete the draw. Five games in the division will be played in the opening day this weekend.

In the boys U12 singles, David Kwon and Jun Cheol Hwang are seeded first and second and will battle for the division title against Allen Cho, Akash Rai, Ruma Lee, and Nason Wessel. Cho and Rai will meet in the first game in the division, while Lee will duel Wessel in the other match.

For the boys U16 singles crown, it will be a three-person fight among Jona-

than Lim, Sam Ryu, and Daniel Heo, while four players—Eugene Kim, Min Seo Lee, Cojiro Kaga, and Andy Lee—will compete for the boys U10 championship.

The boys U18 singles also has four players in Jim Min Wo, Seung Jin Paik, Ken Song, and Sean Lee.

In the girls singles, the U12 age group drew the most participants with seven. No. 1 seed Helen Kim got a bye this weekend, while the three opening games will have Serin Chung facing Emily Wang, Seiyul Hong taking on Bomee Park, and Yejin Son challenging No. 2 seed Dana Lee.

In the girls U18, the Top 2 seeds are Isabel Heras and Tania Tan and they will be joined on the draw by Maria Gregoire, Malika Miyawaki, and Coume Kaga. The U10 singles also has five players in No. 1 Irin Chung, No. 2 Anna Kwon, Anne Lee, Savita Sikkil, and Soarin Oh, while the round-robin U14 singles will feature Anika Camacho, J.C. Ferrer, Hye Jin Elliot, and Eva Kim.

The 2018 CNMI National Junior Tennis Championships is the last competition under the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association's calendar of events for the 2017-2018 seasons. Ranking points are at stake in the two-weekend tournament and players needed them to determine their chances of making it to the CNMI National Junior Team that will compete in a couple of regional events this year.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Maria Gregoire will be playing in the girls U18 singles event of the 2018 CNMI National Junior Tennis Championships, which will kick off this Saturday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Batang, Camor win in Civic Center caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

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REPORTER

Batang and Camor recorded contrasting victories in the 2018 Civic Center Inter-Color Basketball League last Saturday at the Civic Center court.

Batang played in the first game and topped Geotesting, 58-46, while Camor dominated Hong Ye in the second match, 70-54.

Behind after the first half, 19-26, after making only one field goal in the second quarter, Batang rallied in the third and kept going in the fourth to earn the 12-point win. Vandam Acosta and Arman Daluyan teamed up in Batang's second-half recovery with the former scoring 10 points and the latter registering 8.

Acosta and Daluyan had two field goals each in the third period, while Aiken Ege scored 5 points, helping Batang grab the lead, 38-32. Earlier in the first canto, Ege drilled 10 points to hand Batang a 17-10 advantage before his team had a meltdown in the second, allowing Geotesting to take the driver's seat at break.

However, when the game resumed, it was Geotesting's time to struggle, as it was limited to 8 points in the third period, while Batang picked up its scoring and remained on target in the final canto for the double-digit winning margin.

Ege finished with a game high 17 points for Batang,



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Camor's Chris Lansang, center, drives against Hong Ye's Eugene Manglona during the third quarter of their game in the Civic Center caging last Saturday at the Civic Center court.

while Sam Darag led Geotesting with his 15 markers.

In the second game, Dixon Kwon and Prince Factor towed Camor to another victory. Camor led right from the get-go with the two former Marianas High School standouts delivering the goods and drawing enough support from their teammates.

In other results last week, IT&E downed RNV Con-

struction, 76-70 and Alamo edged Geotesting, 67-63.

Freddie Pelisamen lifted Alamo to the 4-point win, as he exploded for 27 points after missing the first quarter of the match. He and Syl Teregeyo teamed up in foiling Geotesting's rally in the fourth quarter. Pelisamen scored 11 points in the final

See BATANG on Page 26

Roma stuns
Barcelona in
Champions
League

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Nuggets,
T-Wolves
duel for last
playoff berth

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28 THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

GSM pushes Aces on the brink

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

League-leading Go See Mark survived a late scare from the Aces to move closer to clinching the pennant and put its foes in an unfamiliar spot, as the reigning titlists may miss the postseason.

Keoni Kapileo tossed a complete game, while Lorenzo Sebaklim had a bases-clearing double in GSM's six-run sixth in-



ning to lift their team to 12-8 win over the struggling Aces in the 2018 Saipan Baseball League last Tuesday

night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

GSM closed out the single round-robin elimination with an 8-1 record, missing a regular season sweep after falling to the Chalan Kanoa Bears last week, 4-5. The Aces, on the other hand, joined Titanium at 4-3 for a tie for fifth to sixth place and one game behind No. 5 Mariners (5-3).

The Aces will next face the Mariners on April 17 and will end their season against the Ballistics on April 20, a re-scheduled match that was originally set on March 29, but was moved in observance of Maundy Thursday. The Aces need to win the last two matches and hope that Titanium and the Mariners lose theirs to keep their playoff chances.

With GSM surviving the Aces, the former moved two games ahead of the Bears, who hold a 6-1 mark. The Bears will play against the 0-6 Outlaws tonight, and are in a

See GSM on Page 26



JON PEREZ

The Fielders' Ignacio Mendiola runs toward home plate as he tries to score in their game against the Talaabwogh Falcons in the 2018 Saipan Little League Baseball's Senior division last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Fielders beat Falcons in Senior League

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Dennis Cabrera scored twice, while Anthony Dizon and Dennis Deleon Guerrero each drove in one run to help the Fielders secure a 5-3 decision against the Falcons in last Sunday's Senior League game in the 2018 Saipan Little League Baseball at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Cabrera, the batting leader as of April 2, was the lone player that had two hits in the game, going 2-for-4 with



a pair of singles to lead the Fielders to their fourth win in seven games and tie their victims for second place behind the Braves' league-best 6-1 slate.

The Fielders had a combined batting of 9-for-29, while the Falcons also did not fare well, going 3-for-23.

Dizon went 2-for-3, both singles, with one run and an RBI, while Deleon Guerrero had an RBI double in the first inning. Austin Sanchez, who went 2-for-3, also scored for the Fielders.

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JON PEREZ

Go See Mark pitcher Kevin Kapileo waits for the signal from catcher Franco Nakamura during their game against the Aces in the 2018 Saipan Baseball League last Tuesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Tight battle in two divisions of youth league

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REPORTER

The race for the championship

in the co-ed U13 and boys U18 divisions of the 2018 NMIFA Spring Youth League will be



down-to-the-wire after results in last Saturday's matches at the Hopwood Middle

School Field were released.

In the co-ed U13, MP United Football Club and Kanoa FC-1 posted contrasting wins to threaten division leader TanHoldings-1, while TanHoldings and MP United are still neck-and-neck in the boys U18 group following their separate wins.

Kanoa-1 eked out a 4-2 victory over TanHoldings-1, 4-2, to improve to a 4-1-2 record. TanHoldings kept the top spot, but is just two wins ahead of

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An MP United Football Club player, left, steps in on defense to pressure National Developmental Team's Guine Borja during the first half of their U18 division game in the 2018 NMIFA Spring Youth League last Saturday at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

